

Spring

FREE

SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth

Scouts off to Camp

- Page 34

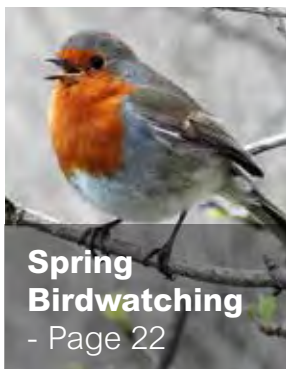


Charmouth Christmas Day Swim - Page 15

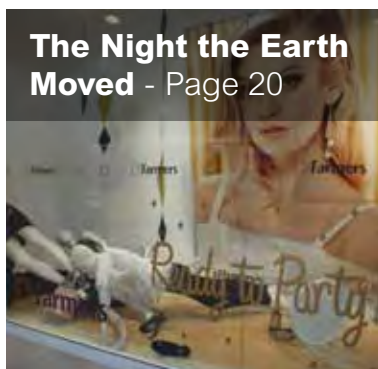


Spring Birdwatching

- Page 22



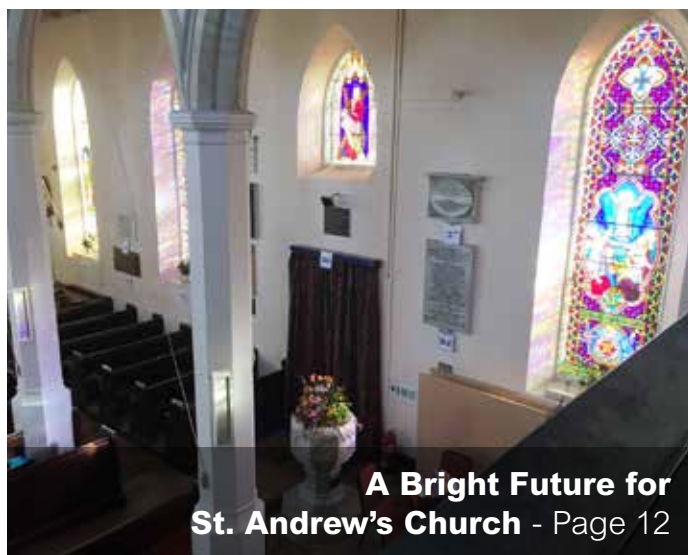
The Night the Earth Moved - Page 20



New recent finds on display - Page 28



A Bright Future for St. Andrew's Church - Page 12



Distant Shorelines with Penny Rose at the Spencer Glacier, Alaska



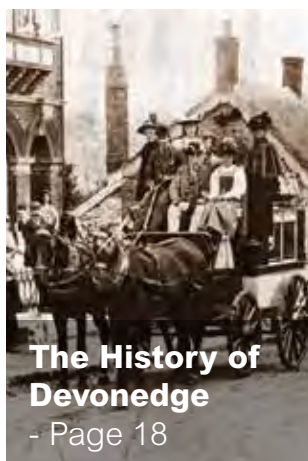
Spooky Fireworks

- Page 3



The History of Devonedge

- Page 18



CHARMOUTH STORES

Your Local Store for more than 200 years!

Open until 9pm every night



Nisa local

The Street, Charmouth. Tel 01297 560304

Abode

- The supply and fit of carpets, vinyls and luxury vinyl tiles to all areas of the home
 - Professional and courteous fitters
- Furniture moved and old flooring lifted and disposed of
 - Leading brands and manufacturers
- Made to measure blinds and curtains
- Always offering beautiful home accessories

THE STREET, CHARMOUTH. 01297 560505



A Family run Cafe serving breakfast lunch and afternoon tea, homemade cakes and cream teas.

Traditional Sunday Lunch (booking recommended). Located in the centre of the village, a warm welcome awaits.

01297 561600

As we move into the spring of 2017 we continue to have a terrific range of properties in Charmouth and the surrounding villages. Many of you will be aware of our sale successes through our "Sold Near You" cards, which are produced by The Guild for us. We have our Spring London Exhibition on 27th April with the Experts in Property and will have a summer exhibition in our Park Lane office.

We are also pleased to announce that FSB Rentals Ltd has now been fully incorporated into the Fortnam Smith & Banwell group, with Louisa Merritt joining the three branch owners as a Director.

They will continue to offer residential letting and property management.



We are also pleased to be able to offer our Spring promotion... so if you are thinking of selling or renting

FREE VALUATION WITH A CHANCE TO WIN £2,500 HOLIDAY VOUCHER

Contact us now for Your NO obligation Valuation Appointment until 30.04.17

We look forward to meeting customers new and old ... come and join us for a coffee to discuss your plans!



As your Local Independent Estate Agent, we offer free valuations and accompanied viewings 7 days a week. Choose us for our local knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm, for all your purchases or lettings locally or out of area.



FORTNAM SMITH & BANWELL

Tel: 01297 560945 or www.fsb4homes.com

Editorial

Only the development of compassion and understanding for others can bring us the tranquillity and happiness we all seek.

Dalai Lama

The most exciting village news has to be the awarding of £370,000 to St Andrew's Church by the Erskine Muton Trust Fund, a bequest from Mrs Nadia Muton, who was a member of a Russian family which fled from the 1918-1919 Russian Revolution and ended up in west Dorset. On her harrowing journey from Russia she saw many churches being destroyed and resolved to leave money to churches in Dorset so they would never end up derelict. This has been a huge shot in the arm for those of us on the Changing Spaces team who came together over 18 months ago in response to the announcement by the PCC (Parochial Church Council) that the church was threatened with closure owing to the lack of funds available to deal with the rapid deterioration of the interior and the church tower. A matched bid has also been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund for major structural work on the tower – the decision will be made at their 14th March meeting. Fingers crossed!

Having lived next door to the late Cove Cottage for 14 years, the article on page 25 by our brilliant local historian Neil Mattingly, touches me deeply. The house was recently sold to developers who then applied to have it demolished to squeeze two (yes two!) ugly, elongated, cedar-clad boxes on the plot, with arrogant disregard for the character of the neighbourhood and the huge invasion of privacy and loss of light those on either side of the proposed development would be subjected to. Twenty one letters of objection were written by concerned residents and despite the Planning Officer unbelievably recommending approval, the WDDC Planning Committee voted 11 to 1 against! I have just heard that the developers are going to appeal the decision, so the battle continues...

On page 31, long-time contributor Richard Edmonds writes frankly about two new centres on the Jurassic Coast. His praise for the Etches Museum at Kimmeridge echoes that of Chris Lakeman Fraser whose very informative article about Steve Etches and his collection of 2000 fossils built up over 30 years is on the following page.

How wonderful that Charmouth has not only been nominated for Beach of the Year by Countryfile but

has also been named, along with Lyme Regis, as the only UK entry in the National Geographic 21 Best Beaches in the World 2017. It does not come as any surprise to me at all.

Jane

THE SHORELINE TEAM

Jane Morrow
Editor

Lesley Dunlop
Assistant Editor, Features and Diary

Neil Charleton
Advertising Manager and Treasurer

John Kennedy
Design and Layout



editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

**The Editor, Shoreline,
The Moorings, Higher Sea Lane,
Charmouth, DT6 6BD**



Shoreline, winner of the Dorset People's Project Award 2014

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SHORELINE DELIVERED OR POSTED TO YOUR DOOR, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR. THE COST IS £6 PER YEAR.

Deadline and Issue Dates for Shoreline 2017

SUMMER ISSUE – deadline 5th June, in the shops 1st July.

AUTUMN / WINTER ISSUE – deadline 5th October, in the shops 1st November.



One of Charmouth Traders' main aims is to put something back into the community, recognizing that it is the community that provides us with our livelihoods.

Charmouth Traders, in association with Charmouth Fayre, organize three events during November and December. Following three years of disastrous weather, this year all three enjoyed mild, dry weather, attracted large numbers of local families and all contributed a financial surplus for the Charmouth Community Fund.

The 5th November Spooky Firework Fun attracted a big crowd, the Christmas Fayre was the most successful yet and the New Year's Eve Fireworks at the Beach saw hundreds thronging Lower Sea Lane on their way to the foreshore for the early evening fireworks and mulled wine.

November 5th

This year's Spooky Firework Fun event combined a Halloween theme with a

firework display at Charmouth Foreshore on Saturday November 5th. Despite the absence of a bonfire (the risk of 'spitting stones' was deemed too great) a big crowd turned up to enjoy a BBQ and bar while waiting for the display. Ian Simpson masterminded the BBQ, helped by his family

and Andy Peters, while Alex and Maria Tritton ran the bar. Sparklers and LED lights were popular as was the Spooky fancy dress competition. Carolyn Fox won the adult section while Connagh and Caitlin Carroll were judged winners of the children's section.



This year our fireworks were timed to follow the Lyme Regis display so attendees of both events could enjoy double the fun. A big thank you to Tim Holmes who organized and let off the display.

Many people donated generously towards the fireworks and, together with profits from the BBQ, bar and sparklers, generated a surplus of over £200 despite spending a record amount on the display.

Continued on page 8

**All Shoreline issues can be seen online at
www.charmouth.org/charmouth_villagelshoreline-magazine/**

Parish Council News

There have been some staff changes over the recent months with Julie Hulme leaving us just before Christmas for a new life in France and we all wish her well in her new venture. Her replacement is Sean Kitcher, who has lived most of his life locally and may be known to a number of you. He joined us on the 3rd Jan and has already fitted in well with the Works team. In addition to Sean, we would like to welcome back Raymond Hunt, on the 8th April, in his role as Seasonal Beach Attendant, for the busiest months of the year.



Sean Kitcher

You will have no doubt noticed since September last year a constant stream of maintenance improvements instigated by Dave Humphrey, our Facilities Manager, in a concerted effort to improve the look and feel across all of Charmouth.

A key day for all your calendars is the Annual Parish Meeting on the 24th May. This is "your" village meeting, facilitated by the Parish Council, and gives an opportunity to meet/speak with the councillors, listen to plans for the coming year as well as hearing from topical local speakers. You may even consider joining the council team.



We are very lucky to live in Charmouth, a lovely place with great amenities, an outstanding coastline and a beautifully maintained village. The quality of the village we live in depends on our voluntary contributions, including those from the Parish Council. We currently have two vacancies for co-opting councillors. The councillor roles include maintaining the condition of the Foreshore, Playing Fields and general amenities, discussing planning applications and following closely the re-organisation of the County and District Councils, managing a small budget, and generally keeping the interests of Charmouth foremost. As a Councillor you can make a valuable contribution to your community and be influential in the continued wellbeing of Charmouth.

Come along and talk to us and see what role you could play by joining the local Parish Council. The time commitment is not necessarily onerous, the Council is very aware that Councillors cannot attend all meetings due to other commitments (holidays for example!). For further formation please contact Lisa Tuck on 01297 560 826

Finally should any 'groups' of people in the village need a meeting place, the Mallory Hayter Room is available some evenings per week as well as weekends at attractive rates.

Charmouth Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY COMING YOUR WAY!

Members of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee have been meeting regularly to develop a survey seeking the views of all residents and businesses on a wide range of issues. The survey will be distributed to every household and business in early March and is to be returned, no later than 31st March 2017, to either Morgans or the Library.

An open forum will be held to discuss the survey on Saturday 11th March from 10am to 2pm at St Andrew's Community Hall. This will be the second open forum, following a meeting and presentation back in February, explaining the background and relevance of this survey. Please come along!

We recognise there are a number of questions within the survey but the feedback received will be very valuable in formulating the Neighbourhood Plan which will reflect the views of Charmouth residents and businesses. So we would appreciate your time in completing this survey, your views matter.

All completed surveys will be entered into a prize draw to win a Charmouth fossil!

Andy Bateman

Member of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee

Christmas Choir Concert

On Monday 19th December, over 150 people gathered in St. Andrew's Church for an evening of carols and song. The building was warm and the welcome was even warmer as the ticket price included a drink. The bar was ably managed by Barry, Jim and Chris.

The choirs (Charmouth and Bridport Pop and Rock Choir with members of the Lyme Regis Golf Club Choir) struck up with a series of carols and contemporary songs. Edward Jacobs, a very talented musician and musical director had the choir, and at times the audience, singing in excellent form. It was a delightful evening of music, with a wonderful solo by Lyn Butler. A perfect aperitif for the festive season.

£250 of the money raised was donated to Cancer Research UK and £175 was donated to Changing Spaces.

Melanie Harvey



Charmouth and Bridport Pop and Rock Choir

Letters

OLD CHARMOUTHIAN

Passing through Charmouth two weeks ago I managed to find a copy of Shoreline at the PO and I was pleased to read that issues are available by post.

I am an old Charmouthian, having been born in the Manse Cottage in 1936. I seldom pass through the village now as I live in Lingfield in Surrey

I still take interest in the village's current and historical affairs through The Charmouth Local History Society (Pavey Group).

I grew up with Geoff Restorick and his elder brother George. I was a pupil at both Charmouth School and Lyme Regis Grammar School and was a chorister, bell-ringer and Sunday School teacher at St Andrew's Church before joining the Army.

My Grandparents, Lionel and Mary White were the Church caretakers from 1906-1946, and he was groundsman for the lawn tennis courts from 1905-1951.

I look forward to receiving the next issue.

Kind regards,

Mike Thomas

WYN AND NEIL NORTH

We enjoyed a family get-together in Charmouth over Christmas, and were captivated by the village. There was a copy of Shoreline in our rented house. We were most impressed - congratulations!

By chance I read the article by Garth Pearce about his memories of Charmouth in the 1970s. He explained that his parents had moved into a bungalow in Parkway, and that their next door neighbours were Wyn and Neil North.

I could hardly believe my eyes. I am sure that your Wyn and Neil North were in fact Winifred and Cornelius North. As a very young man in 1942 Cornelius North had performed extraordinarily heroic deeds during the civilian evacuation from Burma. Later he worked in the colonial service in Tanganyika and Darfur (Sudan), before joining ICI where he worked from 1956-1977. He must have retired to Charmouth.

I am a Research Associate at SOAS (University of London) and am currently working on the civilian evacuation from Burma in 1942 for a series of publications for Bloomsbury (writing under Michael D. Leigh).

I wondered if you could perhaps put me in touch with Garth Pearce. Alternatively, if you had any contact details for Cornelius North's children (I believe they had two daughters and a son) it would be great to be able to make contact with them.

Once again, congratulations on Shoreline - it is an excellent publication.

Best wishes

Dr Mike Leigh

Garth very kindly got in touch with Dr Leigh and filled him in on Neil's retirement years in Charmouth. Apparently, Neil did some special things in Burma during World War two - but like all such men, kept it fairly quiet in later life. Ed.



© www.markthomasphotos.com

DINOSAURS AHOY!

I was in Uplyme at Christmas to celebrate my mother, Imogen, and father, Jack Thomas' Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 22nd December with friends from the local area. They had a card from the Queen. They have lived in Uplyme for 25 years.

I spent many happy summers in my childhood in Charmouth and Lyme Regis. I remember playing in the river by the beach in Charmouth as a child and going to the playing fields by Barrs Lane.

I work as a freelance photographer in London.

Mark Thomas

Mark's photo of the Christmas swim at Charmouth was featured in the Wall Street Journal. With thanks to Bill Burn for first spotting this photo on the WSJ website.

CASTERTON

I read in the last issue of Shoreline that Caroline Rogers went to Casterton School. Now here's a coincidence. Over the road from the school is the old Vicarage. In the 1950s the Vicar, who was also School Chaplain, was John Evans. His wife was my wife Julie's godmother and aunt. Two of the Evans girls attended Casterton School. In the war, John lodged with my wife's parents at Moulton Lodge Farm in Northamptonshire and cycled to Bletchley Park, 28 miles away. He was skilled in Oriental languages, particularly Japanese, so he was a translator and possibly a code breaker.

Stephen, the youngest of the five Evans siblings, and my wife's cousin, was a teenager at Casterton and, though he lives and works in London, had never lost his love of the Lakeland Fells. In 2014, his sisters attended a Casterton School reunion and noticed that the Vicarage was for sale. Stephen bought it and once more the Evans children and their progeny enjoy the home they once shared. Quite a remarkable tale! We have visited on two occasions; a welcoming family home again.

*David Renfrew
(ex-Melbourne House, The Street)*

Charmouth Parking Refund Scheme

A reminder that you can park for two hours in Charmouth's Lower Sea Lane car park and get your parking cost refunded if you spend £10 or more in any Charmouth outlet displaying the 'P FREE' sign. Most outlets in Charmouth village centre are in the scheme.



Charmouth Pharmacy

Guang and his team helping to care for our community.

Find all your health needs and holiday essentials in store

Tel: 01297 560261

Poetry Corner

CHARMOUTH BOWLS CLUB

By Peter Crowter

The playing field is popular, you'll find it down Barrs Lane,
It caters for all ages and now let me just explain.
The top is for the children with its climbing frame and swings,
The middle bit's for football and then maybe other things.
And way down at the bottom you'll find Charmouth's more mature,
Have a friendly bowling club and members they want more.

Though many of the members may have been around a while,
Age is not important; you can be a juvenile.

The youngest member of the club has only just left school,
I think if you should ask him he would tell you bowling's cool.

And then of course the ages rise way up to eighty plus,
And in between are many with free passes for the bus.

It's no surprise that bowling has a language of its own,
Terms you will have heard of and then others less well known.

Wood is what they call a bowl though this is now not true,
'Cause now they're made of plastic and they could be red or blue.

The little bowl is called the jack but do not ask me why,
You bowl your wood towards it and you hope it stops nearby.

The woods you bowl do not go straight you'll find that they will bend,

Make sure you hold it so it turns the way that you intend.

Bias is the term that's used, they build it in the bowl,

You can make it turn both ways and you are in control.

When everyone has bowled their wood it is the end they say,

And then you turn around and bowl the woods the other way.

I hope your appetite is whet and now you will proceed,
To join the Charmouth Bowls Club, a welcome's guaranteed
They'll show you how to hold the wood and to control its swerve,

I guess you'd have to say that it will be a learning curve.

The members are a friendly bunch and you will not regret,
That short stroll down the playing field; that I'm prepared to bet.



Charmouth & Wooton-Fitzpaine Conservatives

Looking back on 2016, nationally it has been a mixed bag, with some interesting events, which not many would have forecast: referendums, Brexit, the comings and goings in Downing Street and a knighthood for Sir Oliver Letwin. Locally, it has been a vintage year. We have organised six social events each of which has been a success in terms of numbers attending, enjoyment of the occasion and the financial results. We have a great committee led by Peter Noel, with lots of members and friends who are regular supporters of our activities. We have also organised one 'political' event when Oliver Letwin talked as dispassionately as he could about the pros and cons of Brexit. Even at this event members could enjoy a glass of wine! Our financial success enables us to be one of the biggest contributors to the support of the Constituency office, proportionately bigger than, say, our nearest neighbour.

The new year, starting in April, promises to be just as much fun, as the committee tries to think up fresh ways of painless, enjoyable fundraising, and to increase our active membership. Our AGM is on Friday 24th March at 10.30 in the Elms. Old and new friends are welcome, particularly those who might like to go on committee. Political careers have to start somewhere, so why not Charmouth! We hope everyone will enjoy the socials, but those who are more politically minded will be helping Darryl Turner to retain his position as County Councillor for Charmouth and Lyme at the elections. Being Charmouth, we will be holding a celebratory party/wake, whatever the result!

We look forward to seeing as many as possible at our functions in the new year.

Bob Hughes *Treasurer*

PARTY IN THE PARK

The first Party in the Park of this year is planned for Sunday 28th May (Spring Bank Holiday weekend), and will be a fabulous night out, so please make sure you save the date in your diaries.

We have invited local band, Mr Jean back as our main act following their two absolutely brilliant performances last year. We are waiting for confirmation of the support act, so more information will be available shortly. Please look on the village notice boards and the charmouth.org web site for more details as we get nearer the day.

As with last year, all the ingredients that made it a fantastic night will be in place. Great music, a fun bar, delicious food, lots of dancing and fireworks to end the night.

Information on a second Party in the Park, for August, will be available once we have confirmed dates and artists.

David Clifford



Nisa Store Makes A Difference Locally

Charmouth Beavers benefit from charity initiative

The 1st Charmouth Scout Group now has an extra £250 to spend on equipment and materials for its Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, thanks to support from its local Nisa convenience store. Under its Making A Difference Locally Charity, local Nisa stores can nominate a good cause to benefit from a donation. This year, the 1st Charmouth Scout Group, whose HQ is only 400 yards away from the store, was a lucky beneficiary.

On hand to receive the cheque were members of the Group's thriving Beaver Colony, who are already making plans to help spend the money on new games equipment! According to Al Tritton, the manager, "We chose the Scout Group because we knew it had expanded considerably over the past four years and now provides weekly activities for a large number of local children. We also wanted to do our bit in ensuring they had the funds they needed to deliver an exciting programme."

Making A Difference Locally helps Nisa stores raise money through the sale of certain products in store, including all of its own-label Heritage range. Every time an item with a MADL logo is purchased, a proportion of the price is added to the store's MADL fund and is then donated to good causes in that store's local area.

For more information contact: Kevin Payne, 1st Charmouth Scouts, 07976 534517 payne.kevin6@gmail.com

1965-2016 - 51 years of Scouting in Charmouth - Please support the 80+ Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who meet in the HQ every week by making a donation through: <http://localgiving.com/search?name=charmouth+scouts>

Nick Shannon

Furniture maker and restorer

ROADSTEAD FARM, CHIDEOCK

Tel 01297480990 e-mail njshan5@gmail.com

Call for quotes on handmade kitchens, tables, shelving, furniture for house and garden, shepherds huts and much more....using environmentally friendly timber.

Brexit, the wound that will not heal

I was lucky enough to live in Málaga for a few months before Christmas. I was working as an au pair in a lovely family, and I went to a local language school to improve my Spanish. I didn't need a visa, I didn't have to provide any documentation (other than my passport) and I was free to live and work there. It was blissful because I had a glimpse of a world I had never known existed. On return, I can't help but feel loss knowing that I will probably never be able to have that level of freedom in Europe again.

For a lot of young people, the pain we feel about Brexit is not just because of the economic cost it will burden us with, not just the shady deals Theresa May is forcing us into with Trump, not just the future years of relentless bureaucracy and law changes - but the ideological detachment from progress, unity and opportunity. The immediate rise of hate crimes against EU migrants after the referendum was no coincidence.

Yes, the European Union was not perfect. Its lack of transparency when it comes to laws and decision-making could do with an injection of democracy. But we could have improved this system when we were still a part of it. Now that we've cut and run, we have absolutely no say in the Union - which will still have a great influence over our country whether we like it or not.

This might sound like a pointless tirade because the referendum has been and gone, and the die is cast. Even Jeremy Corbyn says there's no going back (although I wish he wouldn't). But I just wanted to give you an insight into the hearts and minds of the losers of the referendum. Whether they are the more or less half of the country who voted remain and are still bitterly against Brexit, or those who didn't get a say because they were too young, or maybe used their vote purely as an anti-government protest and are now regretting it. And even those who voted to leave - because soon enough, we will all be losers in this referendum.

Salud 2017! Please be better.

Holly Harwood

Holly is 18 and will be heading to LSE in September to study Politics and International Relations. Ed

Charmouth Twinning Association

Are there any young retirees who have recently moved into the village who would like to improve their French and join us for a lovely biennial weekend away in Charmouth's twin town of Asnelles-sur-Mer? I'm happy to provide further details of the Twinning Association and the upcoming visit, which inevitably involves good French food and wine, entertaining company and sightseeing in Normandy. And, of course, the Twinning Association holds varied social events throughout the year.

If you are interested, contact **Peter Bonner** on 560251 or **Penny Rose** on 561076

Christmas Fayre

The most successful Charmouth Christmas Fayre yet took place on Friday 9th December. As well as Santa's Grotto (in Abode), children's and family carol singing, a Treasure Hunt, raffle and a festive Punch & Judy, there were activities in 19 venues up and down The Street.

The Christmas trees and lights were installed by 1st December and thanks are due to Gerry Bearpark.

The evening started at 5pm when Santa arrived in a vintage car, accompanied by children from Charmouth Cherubs. Children from Charmouth School then sang carols in the church. forty seven children visited Santa in his grotto in Abode while families enjoyed the many activities put on by traders and local organisations up and down The Street. These included children's crafts, face painting, mulled wine, turkey rolls, soup, wine and beer tastings, guessing games, lucky dips and a tombola. After the raffle was drawn at Fortnams the finale was well attended family carol singing in St Andrew's Church.



Helped by the raffle, Charmouth Stores tastings and tombola, Fortnams mulled wine and mince pies and turkey rolls at The White House, over £500 was raised for the Community Fund.

New Year

Charmouth's New Year celebrations began with fireworks at the beach at 6pm. Hundreds of people gathered at the foreshore to enjoy mulled wine, prosecco, sparklers and mince pies while waiting for the fireworks. The early start meant that many families with young children came and there was a terrific atmosphere.

So many people turned up that the mulled wine ran out very quickly and more ingredients were quickly sourced for a second batch. Ian Simpson and his team have never worked faster! Sparklers were in great demand as well. The event finished at 6.30 so everyone could go on to their own celebrations.

Many people gave generous donations and so the evening achieved a surplus of more than £700 which goes to the Charmouth Community Fund.

Thank you to Jim Rose and his wife for keeping the Heritage Centre open so that we could use their power for lighting and music, also to Tim Holmes for letting off the fireworks.

The Charmouth Community Fund

Charmouth Traders have traditionally donated any surpluses from events and activities to the local community. In recent years we have helped several organisations including Shoreline, the Scouts, Village People, St Andrew's Community Hall and the Charmouth Local History Society. We have also funded the Christmas trees and lights in The Street, helped by sales of the Charmouth Calendar.

In the interest of transparency, the Traders have decided to put surpluses from events and other sources into a Charmouth Community Fund. This fund is intended for Charmouth organisations and projects. Initially the Fund will be set up with £2500. £1000 is earmarked for 2017 Christmas trees and lights up and down The Street.

If you have an idea for a Charmouth project or know of a Charmouth organization that needs some cash for a specific purpose then please apply by using the CONTACT US at the bottom of the village page on the village website www.charmouth.org

Charmouth Traders

Apart from our events, the Traders have worked together to try and increase trade during the winter by putting together a feature in the View From Lyme paper highlighting the subsidised parking. Another is planned for Jan/Feb.

Our revamped website www.charmouth.org launched in October. The clearer format is proving popular with visitors to the site and pages viewed since the launch are up by an impressive 10%.

The Charmouth Calendar has again sold well and we are in the process of planning a 2018 calendar which should be on sale in time for the Easter break. If you have a good photograph of Charmouth please email it to phil.tritton@gmail.com by Friday 10th March. Even photos taken on phones are usually good enough – they are so much better nowadays!



Sales of the Charmouth History Trail continue to do well. This is produced jointly with the Charmouth Local History Society and is only £2 – an interesting way to while away an hour on a nice day!

Our idea for a Charmouth Walking Festival has been put back again because the re-opening of the coast paths has been delayed further and is not now expected until 2019. If you have an idea for a Charmouth event or suggestions as to how we could improve our current events then use the CONTACT US at the bottom of the village page on www.charmouth.org



Phil Tritton

Please Support Shoreline's Advertisers

Charmouth Central Library and Internet Cafe

Thanks to our Volunteers and Friends we have continued to provide an excellent service and remain financially sound. I am also grateful to Charmouth Parish Council for allowing us to sell books on the foreshore in summer. Not only does it bring in funds, but it also reminds non-users of the library and that we still exist.



I have just received the results of the survey referred to in the library news section, and I am delighted that over 50 people took time to respond. Mostly they liked what we are doing a lot, but they made a range of suggestions which hopefully will make us even better in the future.

This is my third year as Chairman, following on from Hazel Robinson who also did three years in the chair. It seems no time since we were contemplating a future in Charmouth without a library; reliant on the mobile library service. Pleased is not the right word to use, but it is interesting that the mobile library service has closed, whilst we continue to run.

Bob Hughes, Chairman



CHARMOUTH GARDENERS - Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 12th April – 2.30pm - Village Hall, Wesley Close.
Mr. Bob Ayers will speak on 'The Hidden Gardens of London'.
A wonderful insight into the 'quiet treasures' within the city.

Saturday 13th May – 10am – Village Hall, Wesley Close.
Plant & Home Produce Sale/Coffee Morning. Lots of lovely plants and food delights. Get there early for the best bargains.

Wednesday 21st June – Coach Visit to RHS Rosemoor Gardens, North Devon, beautiful gardens within 40 acres!
Award winning food venues.

Charmouth Gardeners' members have first booking advantage but there may be spare spaces thereafter for non-members. Why not join, only £5 per annum and lots of advantages. For coach visit or membership details please contact 01297 561625.

An early reminder of the Annual Village Show

Saturday 12th August – 2.30pm both Village Halls

Like the motto 'Be prepared'... Flowers, Vegetables, Home produce, Handicrafts, Photography, Children's Classes... Please do join us for this fun day. More details to follow nearer the day.

Pauline Bonner



Bridport Leisure Centre

Has so much to offer...



- © 25m Swimming Pool & Learner Pool
- © State of the art Fitness Suite
- © Over 90 Fitness Classes every week
- © Badminton and Squash Courts
- © Big Splash Fun Inflatable Sessions
- © Gymnastics, Trampolining, Swimming Lessons and so much more!

Call us today on 01308 427464



Bridport Leisure Centre,

Brewery Fields, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 5LN

Tel: 01308 427464 **Email:** info@bridportleisure.com

www.bridportleisure.com

facebook.com/bridportleisurecentre twitter.com/bridportleisure
Registered Charity Number 267781

CHARACTER BUILDERS REQUIRED



**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY –
FULL TRAINING PROVIDED.**

Can you shape the future by helping local young people fulfil their full potential?

The 1st Charmouth Scout Group needs more adult (18 and upwards) help to deliver exciting, challenging and character-building programmes of activities for its growing number of members.

No Scouting experience is needed, just a desire to see young people thrive and develop.

You won't be doing it alone. You'll be part of a dynamic team that has helped the Scout Group quadruple in size over the last four years – hence the need for more help!

Full training is provided – and you even get a free uniform!

You will also be developing your own character by learning new skills, working as a team and gaining in confidence. Volunteering in this way may also enhance your CV.

Fancy helping to build the future and taking the 'Four Week – try it and see challenge'?

Contact Kevin Payne, Group Scout Leader – 07976 534517 – payne.kevin6@gmail.com

The Dorset Guide Book

1st Edition by Charles Tait

Some years ago, the author of this book was challenged by his partner, Debby Snook, from Wootton Fitzpaine, "to do a book about Dorset similar to those he had already done on Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides." After several years of photography, many miles and much intensive research, the Dorset Guide Book was published in 2015.

Before becoming a photographer and travel writer, Charles had worked in DNA research, experience which has proved invaluable over the years. He takes a meticulous approach to his work, only writing from personal experience, which entails many thousands of miles by car and on foot, always accompanied by his cameras, and usually by Debby. The result is a comprehensive guide to the natural history, archaeology, history and culture of Dorset. All of the main sites of interest, visitor attractions and nature reserves, as well as hundreds of less-visited, but no less attractive places of interest. Above all it is a guide to the exploration of an exceedingly diverse, yet unspoilt, county. The book contains 1,215 illustrations, mostly by the author. A few have been sourced from other nature photographers, while Ordnance Survey 1:250,000 maps are used throughout. Old photographs, maps and prints add colour to the text.

All of Charles' guide books follow a similar layout where the Introduction covers Natural History, including Geology, Habitats, Birds, Fauna, Flora and Insects. Archaeology and History are covered from a local perspective. The detailed Gazetteer surveys the whole county by area. This is followed by a comprehensive cross-referenced list of Places to Visit and 17 suggested Itineraries. A full bibliography is followed by an extended Index. The books are designed to be easy to navigate and, unlike many guide books, are profusely illustrated. The text, photographs, mini indexes, maps and itineraries are all designed to make the whole experience of using the books as easy and transparent as possible.

West Dorset is of course covered in detail. The archaeology, history, geology and natural heritage feature strongly in the section on the Jurassic Coast, Charmouth and Lyme Regis. The first spread of the Itineraries is taken up mostly with things to see and do around or within a few miles of Charmouth.

The beach at Charmouth is probably Charles' favourite, despite much competition from his native Orkney, the Outer Hebrides, Isle of Skye and the Northern Highlands. The beach here is different on every visit, with changing sand and pebbles, cliff collapses, new fossils, weather and lighting. For a photographer interested in nature, archaeology and history, Dorset is a wonderful place to explore.

Of Charmouth, Charles says, "Charmouth (B Cerne, carn, gravel, stony OE m de, mouth, Cernemude) is an attractive village situated on a hill above Lyme Bay. Now bypassed by the A35, it was on the Roman road which can still be found on the ridge north of the village at Hogchester (OE hogg hyrst, pig farm on wooded hill). Apart from its excellent selection of local shops and holiday accommodation, the main feature of Charmouth is the beach, with its dramatic eroding cliffs. Unusually the foreshore here belongs to the village and not the Crown Estate.

This beach is one of the best places on the Jurassic Coast to look for fossils. The most common are ammonites and belemnites which get washed out of the collapsing cliffs and also may be found at low tide. A nearly complete Ichthyosaur fossil was found on 26th December 2013 below Black Ven. It is about 1.5m long and the best example found in recent years.

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre is based in an old cement factory above the beach. It has a large collection of fossils, as well as displays on geology and wildlife. It runs fossil hunting walks and welcomes many school trips every year. The beach stretches 2.5mi (4km) east to Golden Cap and about 1.5mi (2.5km) west to Lyme Regis. At low tide a large area of sand and rocks is exposed. The beach is highly variable depending on the weather, sometimes being nearly all sand and at other times all shingle. Care should be taken to check the tide times to avoid becoming stranded."

Some of his Norse ancestors visited in c.833AD, but were not exactly welcomed, "Viking Invasions George Roberts wrote in 1834 (sic), "During Saxon times the coast was particularly subject to the invasions of the Danes In AD833, according to the Saxon Chronicle, a dreadful battle was fought at Charmouth. The Danes having landed "they made cruel ravage and slaughter." Their fleet consisted of 35 ships, containing a powerful army: their whole force, must have amounted to

15,000 or more men. Egbert collected the whole force of the county, and marched to attack them, after they had continued their ravages, according to Matthew of Westminster, about a twelve month.

The king had nearly succeeded in cutting them off as they were forming; he threw them into great confusion, but continual supplies of men from the ships turned the scale in their favour. The Saxons were routed: the night alone prevented their destruction by the infuriated invaders, by the favour of which, the king hardly escaped. Among the number of the slain were two earls, his principal officers, Dudda and Osmond, Wigen, bishop of Sherbourne, and Hereferth, bishop of Winton.

The Danes, finding a settlement would be liable to the attacks of the brave Egbert, retired to their ships with precipitation, and set sail. They continued to hover about the coast. In 840, they effected a landing on the same spot, from the same number of ships. Ethelwulf's army, which

he headed in person, advanced to encounter them: a bloody battle ensued, which, after a desperate struggle, terminated in the Danes remaining masters of the field, though they shortly afterwards retired without any spoil. A successive series of invasions followed."

Currently Charles Tait's guides series includes the Dorset Guide Book, West Dorset Guide, Purbeck Guide as well as Orkney (4 titles), Shetland, Outer Hebrides, Isle of Skye and the North Highlands. A new guide to the North Coast 500 will be published in April. New editions and further titles are constantly in preparation. All of the guides cover not only the most popular places to visit, but also many much less well known sites of interest, where often few if any others may be seen. Walks, viewpoints, places to see birds, plants, butterflies and fossils feature throughout.

The Dorset Guide Book is available in Charmouth, the Heritage Coast Centre and bookshops throughout Dorset.

charles.tait@zetnet.co.uk

ISBN 9781909036314 384 pages 220x140mm (£14.95)



The George

Each year we try and do our best to raise as much as we can for a nominated charity and this year our charity is Cancer Research UK. Last year we raised £1000 for Charmouth Football Club.

We have bingo scheduled for the 18th March and a quiz night before June and a cake sale which will, hopefully attract those with a sweet tooth! The Duck Race is back on the 29th May with ducks available closer to race day. 2017 sees our fifth beer festival on Saturday 3rd June. A great day for all the family, this is proving a popular fixture in the Charmouth calendar with live entertainment from 4pm till late and a tempting variety of beers and ciders - what's not to enjoy! See you there!!

On Saturday 30th September we will be fund raising in Bucky Doo square alongside the Wessex Military Band so please come along and support us in our fancy dress. Later in the year, in November, we will be hosting our ever popular auction in the George – all donations gratefully received!

Linda Bearpark

Village Hall 140 Club

Do you know that the Village Hall in Wesley Close runs a 140 Club? For as little as £12.00 a year (due in June), you can be a member and you have 36 chances of winning a good money prize. There are three tickets drawn every month for prizes of £30, £20, and £10.

The money gained from this venture helps to keep the hall running to a high standard and to pay the fuel bills, which in turn helps to keep the cost of hiring the hall down. There are a few spare tickets for the coming year, so if you would like to join please ring Gill Savage on 01297 560615, or Jean Kesterton on 01297 560009.

Judy Weeks

SPEED LIMIT FOR CHARMOUTH?

As our house is on The Street, I have to admit to a personal bias in a recent request to Charmouth Parish Council for the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit within the village. It was the increase of heavy traffic thundering down the hill early in the morning making our whole house tremble which really impelled us into thinking how much better and safer our village would be if traffic speed was limited to 20 mph, particularly as few drivers seem to think the 30 mph limit applies to them.



Charmouth is inhabited largely by older people and it's not a happy sight to see how vulnerable they are when trying to cross the road, particularly near a bend. Children, mothers with pushchairs and even unwitting ambling holidaymakers are also under risk.

Dorset County Council makes it clear that they will not introduce 20 mph limits unless there are recorded collisions and "traffic calming" measures already in place. The Parish Council's powers are limited though Councillors have tried their best to calm traffic with their chicane design of on-street parking. This has worked to some extent, particularly in busy periods. Sadly, this does not prevent motorists from speeding down the hill.

There are campaigns around the country to introduce 20 mph limits and already 15.5m people enjoy them. There is even a campaign group, '20's Plenty for Us', who say, "Our streets should be accessible by all and not solely the fit and the brave." They advise that the first thing to do is to have a petition to demonstrate to local politicians that there is local support for change.

DCC are in the process of reviewing their speed limits policy so, if you agree that there should be a 20mph limit within Charmouth, the time is right to let them know what we want, so please get in touch and let us have a petition. It seems a lot better than waiting for DCC's requirement for recorded collisions to happen.

Hazel Robinson



Distant Shorelines with Eric Harwood in Revolution Square, Cuba

News from St. Andrew's Church



I begin with a Press Release that you might have seen in early February, in the local newspapers:

Church of England Diocese of Salisbury

Dorset Church Secures £370k Grant for Renewed Interior

A West Dorset church has taken a massive step towards securing its future for the long-term, thanks to a grant from a trust connected with the Diocese of Salisbury. St. Andrew's in Charmouth has been awarded a substantial grant of £370,000 for a major reordering of the church's interior by the Erskine Muton Trust, which makes grants for Anglican church buildings in Dorset.

The Revd Stephen Skinner, Rector of the Golden Cap Team, said: "This grant will help us make St. Andrew's fit for the 21st Century – and beyond! It will enable us to install new heating, flooring, chairs and a new sound system. We will also take the opportunity for a complete redecoration of the church, hopefully with a local partner. This work will help us serve the wider community and our many visitors more effectively through concerts, exhibitions and our FreeXChange Café. It will also provide our regular worshippers and our Golden Cap Team with a state of the art base for mission and ministry, whilst preserving the beauty and prayerful atmosphere for which St. Andrew's is treasured."

The Archdeacon of Sherborne, the Venerable Paul Taylor, congratulated parishioners on their achievement, saying: "Huge credit goes to the Changing Spaces team at Charmouth and the Parochial Church Council, who have worked hard on these applications over the last two years. The Diocese will continue to support them as they move to detailed planning for the reordering. People have been praying and serving their neighbours at St Andrew's for 150 years, and this grant will help ensure this continues for at least another 150."

St Andrew's has also submitted a matched bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for major structural work on the tower, and hopes to hear the result of this in February or March.

So, we have some wonderful news to celebrate at St. Andrew's. of the biggest grant ever offered through this Dorset Charitable

Trust! The Changing Spaces team are now starting to put together some innovative plans for reordering of the interior of the church. In due course we will exhibit details of our plans, in order to obtain your opinions on them, and seek further suggestions for improvements that can benefit the whole community and our many visitors.

We still need to raise large sums of money ourselves for this scheme, so our fund raising events will continue. Naturally, we still welcome any donations towards the overall cost of roughly £750,000! Ideas for innovative fund raising events will always be welcome!!

Meanwhile, our regular services continue. We now use a more simplified Order for our 9.30am Holy Communion (Eucharist) services – which seems to have met with widespread approval. Our new 'Charmouth Praise' Service on the third Sunday of each month is going well. As we look towards Easter, we are glad that the Golden Cap Team Maundy Thursday Service will be at St. Andrew's this year. It will be at 7pm on 13th April, and will include the ancient custom of 'Washing Feet', as well as celebrating the 'Last Supper' of Jesus with his disciples.

During Lent we will again run a special study course, to assist a positive observance of Lent. It is called 'Receiving Christ – in five different ways!' These ways may be more familiar (e.g. through prayer and friendship), or more unexpected (e.g. through encounter with the poor and needy). We will organize a course for Charmouth according to 'demand' and availability – starting the week of 6th March. So please get in touch if interested on 01297 443763.

Revd Stephen Skinner,
Team Rector



Some of the Changing Spaces team after a successful pew sale where £900 was raised.

To advertise in Shoreline please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk



LUKE'S CAKES

Seven years ago I began a cake sale in The Arcade, Charmouth, in aid of Children in Need. In 2016 I raised just over £500. This has taken me from Charmouth School through my five years at Woodroffe and I still have plans to run another this year by which time I will, hopefully, be attending Exeter College.

With the generosity of helpers, bakers and buyers I have raised in excess of £2500 for Children in Need. I enjoy baking and organising and look forward to this annual event. I believe that if you enjoy doing things like this you are halfway to having a successful outcome.

So thank you everyone for supporting me and I look forward to the next cake sale.

Luke Bearpark age 16

Carols and Cheer

On 3rd December we once again had our 'Carols and Cheer' fundraising event in the Village Hall. It began with Pete Wild and his son Reuben providing some rock 'n' roll, which was a wonderful opener to our event; certainly woke us up! Lunch of bread and cheese with wine was enjoyed by all, followed by mince pies and coffee. Tony Mercer then provided brilliant accompaniment, as always, to the communal carol singing. The raffle, due to the generosity of some of our loyal supporters, was a great mix of prizes. We raised £675.64 for The Weldmar Hospicecare Trust, so once again a huge THANK YOU to all who bought tickets or helped in some way.

Kathy Fereday

THE BAND

The Band is a new musical experience for children and young people based here in Charmouth. Band rehearsals take place at St Andrew's Community Hall on Tuesday and Friday evenings and are a fun and creative way of getting an insight into how bands work, write and play. There are three different groups all based loosely on ability, with ages ranging from 9 to 19 and which are inspired and led by music industry professionals and young volunteers.

The exciting news is that the St. Andrew's Community Hall Committee and The Band are coming together to promote their first gig at the hall on March 25th. The young people will perform some of their own songs as well as covers of better known material, and will visit many modern genres of music along the way: blues, breakbeat, funk, rock and more. Professional sound and lighting will be brought in for the event which kicks off at 7.30pm. There will also be a full bar and snacks available.

Please come and support the efforts and great music made by the young people by buying a ticket from Fortnam, Smith and Banwell or by calling me or Polly on 01297 560030. The money raised will go jointly to the Community Hall and the equipment fund for The Band. Please also call us if you want more information about joining The Band for rehearsals and future gigs.

News just in – A second gig has been confirmed for the older band (who have called themselves Joe and The Juice) and who have been asked to play at Jurassic Fields Festival in Bridport in July. With a thing for funk and groove but also a spirit of rock, they are going to be a perfect festival band. It will be a great experience in a truly professional environment. Come and check out their first performance on March 25th when they headline the Charmouth gig.

Pete Wild



**Martin Taylor
LANDSCAPE LTD**



- Grass and Hedge Cutting
- Turfing • Patios
- Seeding • Ponds
- Walls • Fencing
- Drives and Paths



**Landscaping and
Groundworks
Mini Digger
Compact Tractor
For Hire**

www.martintaylorlandscapeltd.co.uk
taylor_landscapesky.com

**FOR FREE
ESTIMATES**

07831714635 01297 560486

FLOYDS TAXI CHARMOUTH

01297 560733

4, 6, 8 seaters Airports - Docks

Long and Local Trips



FABRIC HOARDERS – CHARMOUTH SEWING CIRCLE CAN HELP YOU!

Members of Charmouth Central's Sewing Circle would like to help inveterate hoarders of fabrics by relieving them of their remnants... to use them for charity.

It's like this. Tuesday mornings in the library are usually a hive of activity (and gossip) while half-a-dozen intrepid seamstresses are busy sewing a "Numbers & Colours" floor-quilt for Monday morning's Rhymetime children - but this project will soon be finished. So, what next?

We weren't immediately inspired but, after several essential cups of coffee, concluded that the new project should directly provide something a bit more vital than our usual lavender sachets and table-mats.

After some research, we found that attractive washable cotton syringe-driver bags are, sadly, constantly needed by hospitals and hospices – including the Joseph Weld Hospice in Dorchester. These bags are used by patients to carry round small battery-powered machines which administer palliative drugs.

Delving into our own fabric stash, we found we had only enough to make a few bags. No doubt we'll also be raiding our drawers and boxes at home but the double-sided, lined bags with long straps take quite a lot of fabric so we shall soon run out of supplies.

This is where we can help you! We'll gladly take off your hands any new, washable cotton or poly/cotton fabric you may have mouldering away in your own drawers and boxes. You will be able to feel that satisfactory glow of decluttering in the knowledge that you are helping others at the same time.

Fabrics can be left, marked for the Sewing Circle, at Charmouth Central Community Library or we can come and collect from you.

You can be sure that any washable cotton or poly-cotton fabric you can bear to relinquish will be most gratefully received and will be put to a very good use. For drawstring bags which the Hospice also needs, piping or similar cord would be very useful too

If you would like to join us to help make some bags, please come along on any Tuesday morning from 10.30 – 12.30 or e-mail for more details.

Hazel Robinson, Charmouth Central Sewing Circle
hazetrosey@aol.com

History Snippet

Charmouth is fortunate to have several different venues for social events. The largest of them, St. Andrew's Community Hall, dates back to 1909 when construction began. Iris Burford recalls when David Carter twisted her late husband Charles's arm and asked him to survey the hall and be on the St. Andrew's Church Hall transition committee until it was handed over to the new committee in the 1990s. Charles advised that it was solid and of a quality they would find hard, if not impossible, to afford new and that they would be better off spending money repairing and protecting the existing roof and brickwork and spreading out any 'improvements' over the coming years. He advised them not to demolish the hall and build anew, as was the intention. Iris recalls Charles drawing up some ideas for improving the building's frontage but they were never utilised.

The hall had been used for regular services but the roof leaked and it fell into disrepair after a change of vicar. At that time, a number of past members of the parish came forward, including Edna Smith and Mallory Hayter, to persuade the diocese of Salisbury to release it for the use of the community. Mike Davies recalls the fund-raising efforts in the 1990s and the first of what was to become an annual panto. "I was friendly with Mike Whatmore so we put our heads together and Mike agreed to write a script. We got a group together, Charmouth Companions, and charged a £2 annual subscription. We netted £60, but the amount was not enough for a panto, so we went to the Parish Council. The council brought a case that the hall would be used for village functions and they lent us £600. So we put on a panto using that and membership fees. We did three performances and made a profit of £1500. It went from there... over the years we held a total of 10 pantos."

"Roy Churchman and David Carter were instrumental in making things happen," notes Mike.

With thanks to Iris Burford and Mike Davies.

Lesley Dunlop

Other history snippets relating to the village would be welcomed.



By permission of the Bridport & Lyme Regis News

All Shoreline issues can be seen online at:
www.charmouth.org/charmouth-village/shoreline-magazine/



Charmouth Christmas Day Swim

The Lyme Regis and Charmouth RNLI guild would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Day swim. With one of the biggest crowds in its 20+ year history, a record amount of £1,931 was raised. The turnout was fantastic and

the costumes were all great fun, with special mention for our two fabulous dinosaurs.

Colin and Clare Evans who headed up the team of collectors said "With such generous support from everyone it was

truly a fabulous way to spend a couple of hours on Christmas morning".

The next event is our RNLI Flag Day on Saturday 3rd June

Clare Evans



Photo Bill Burn

Charmouth Local History Society (The Pavey Group)

Back Issues of the Village Echo on the Web

One of the most important achievements of the society has been publishing the Village Echo. The first issue came out in September 1999 and since then there has been a steady flow so we are now in the process of preparing issue 44. The back issues of the Village Echo contain a huge amount of information about the history of the village and the people who lived or worked here – it is a tremendous resource for anyone interested in Charmouth's local history and we thought it was important to make it more freely available. The Echo has always been produced by the society and the back issues have all been stored on the Pavey Room computers. We are pleased to say that we have transferred back issues 1 to 41 to the web so that they are now freely available to all. They can be accessed from our web site

www.charmouthlocalhistorysociety.org.uk – from the home page choose 'publications' and then 'the village echo', which will take you to a page with full instructions. There is a list of all the articles published and you can also search the entire contents of the back issues so if, for example, you are interested in a particular place, house or surname you can search to see if this has been featured in the Echo and, if it has, you can then find and read the issue of interest – all this free and in the comfort of your own home!

Issue 44 of the Village Echo should be available in April - delivered free to members and available for £2 in local outlets.

Future events

We are planning another of Neil Mattingly's ever-popular talks for the spring – keep an eye out for news.

Richard Dunn, Secretary

To advertise in Shoreline please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

A Community Message from Dorset Police

In December we said goodbye to PCSO John Burton after eight years as part of Lyme Regis Neighbourhood Policing Team, and 20 years with Dorset Police in total. We wish John all the best in his future ventures and we look forward to welcoming a new member to the team in the near future

On my travels through Charmouth I often see people's cars parked on the zig-zag lines by the pedestrian crossing on The Street. When I speak to the drivers of these cars they are invariably local people who wish to park as close as possible to the shops. Please be aware of the danger you put fellow villagers in when you choose to park on the zig-zag markings. They are there to help provide safe passage for people using the crossing to get across The Street. There are many children and elderly people who use the crossing and it is important that everyone can use the crossing as safely as possible. To this end,

the penalty for parking on the zig-zag lines is a Fixed Penalty Notice costing £100 as well as 3 points on your driving licence. Please think next time you are tempted to park on the zig-zag lines to save you a 30 second walk to the shops.

I hold a monthly engagement at Charmouth Central on the first Wednesday of the month between 14:30 and 15:00. Please drop by and have a chat if you have an issue to raise or any questions relating to Policing in the village. I also hold a monthly online engagement, for those who are unable to visit our physical engagements. Please see our Facebook page, Bridport, Beaminster & Lyme Regis Neighbourhood Policing Teams for the dates of upcoming events.

PCSO5474 Luke White
Lyme Regis Neighbourhood Policing Team
Lyme Regis Police Station, Hill Road,
Lyme Regis DT7 3PG



PCSO5474 Luke White

CHARMOUTH 2016 WEATHER

At a recent talk to the village Gardener's Society, the audience were told how important it is to know what the typical temperature is in their garden throughout the year. This would help to ensure they bought the right types of plant for their area. A number of the audience turned and asked me what the figures were for Charmouth.



Unfortunately my weather station hasn't been in operation for long enough to give meaningful results in term of averages. Also, the answer can only be given in general terms because each garden varies – some are sheltered, some nearer the sea, some are shaded etc. However the following figures for 2016 for my little patch of Charmouth give a broad indication of temperature. The figures for 2015 have been included for comparison and are similar, although this winter is looking to be noticeably colder.

Rainfall has been fairly even throughout the year with the exception of November; 36mm of rain fell on the 21st, following 30mm over the previous two days. This caused the river to rapidly fill and a deep channel was scoured out under the footbridge and straight out to sea. I suppose the silver lining is that having dug its own channel, no river straightening should be necessary this winter.

Bill Burn

2016	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Highest °C	13	13	13	17	22	23	26	24	24	18	18	13
Lowest °C	-2	-3	-1	-1	0	6	9	10	6	4	-3	-2
Average °C	7	6	6	8	12	15	16	17	16	11	8	7
Av °C 2015	7	5	7	10	12	14	16	15	14	12	11	11
Precipitation mm	65	42	65	55	61	72	14	43	55	72	112	17
No. rainy days (+1mm)	12	10	11	10	10	13	5	6	10	8	13	8
Hottest Day:	26.2°C on 19 th July											
Coldest Day:	-3.1°C on 16 th February											
Windiest Day:	85 kph gust (52mph) on 28 th March											
Total Precipitation:	673mm (26 inches)											
Wettest Day:	36.8mm on 21 st November											

Samaritan Purse Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

In October last year I read a post on the Charmouth village noticeboard which was written by Karen Sands, inviting Charmouth people to take part in the Samaritan Purse Shoebox Appeal. I had heard of this before and had seen videos of kids all over the world receiving these shoeboxes full of small Christmas gifts, but had never taken part. Thinking it would be something I could share with my grandchildren, I contacted Karen and said that I was happy to do a couple of boxes.

The way it works is that you register online and state how many boxes you are able to fill. There is a charge of £3.00 per box to cover delivery. At this point your box could be sent anywhere in the world. I duly did this, registering for three boxes and then set about finding things to fill them. There are three age ranges, from the very young to older children.



My granddaughter and I had great fun filling the boxes with goodies and she wrote a message from Charmouth to include in the box. I registered a further five boxes when my grandchildren from London came to stay as they wanted to do them too. They also asked if they could have shoeboxes for Christmas, and they did!

In all, 72 shoes boxes were collected from Karen Sands from generous people in Charmouth.

This was a fantastic effort and all credit is due to Karen for organising drop-off points and getting the boxes collected. We have now heard that our boxes were delivered to children in Romania and the Ukraine and we can go online and see the happy faces of the children receiving them. How uplifting this is, especially for our children and grandchildren who have so much, to be able to give to children who have so little. I will definitely be doing this again next year and maybe we could aim for 100. Once again, well done to all those who contributed and especially to Karen Sands for sharing the idea and organising it, to make it happen.

Jan Plummer

From the Charmouth Practice

The Charmouth Practice Diabetes project is progressing well. A morning talk is planned on Wednesday 29th March for our patients with Diabetes. Please look out for a practice newsletter with more details.

To paraphrase Mark Twain: The reports of our imminent departure are much exaggerated. We have no immediate plans to retire. Many thanks to local cartoonist and illustrator Ian Dicks for the following very insightful and honest piece on depression.



I'm a lucky man - I have a happy marriage, a beautiful home, good friends and a successful career as a cartoonist - even a recent cancer scare turned out to be just that, a scare. I also possess a dog... a dog often found following closely on my heels then just as often disappears, maybe for years at a time - it is the black dog of depression,

Depression...admitting to it causes a dinner party to descend into awkward silence and grown men to move to the other end of the bar. It also kills. Each and every hour, on average in the UK, a person dies from suicide.

While cancer is no longer referred to as the 'big C', and paraplegics even have their own Olympics, depression remains the last great medical taboo...a frighteningly common illness that still suffers from a terrible and misplaced stigma, bred from ignorance and fear.

Before going further I'll give the uninitiated an objective idea of my own personal experience of clinical depression. Imagine feeling pain, a pain as real as physical pain, just like a knife going right through your heart and twisting, imagine this pain being accompanied by a feeling of complete demotivation, making even the simplest job akin to climbing Everest, add to that an overwhelming feeling of complete and utter desolation and loss. Finally, imagine feeling the pressure to create a facade of total normality when actually you're using most of your energy to keep from drowning.

Apart from my close family, I count on one hand friends or colleagues who have the slightest idea of my illness. I didn't tell my wife till my 30s... in fact I didn't even know it had a name until my 30s!... I simply felt guilt for having good fortune and success yet still being in pain. Finally a sympathetic doctor diagnosed clinical depression. Whoopee! I'd joined the club!

Depression carries a huge burden of shame, so strong that a teenager can leave a pub laughing and joking, then go home and hang himself rather than admit he has depression to his friends. When questioned, most of us can tell tales of battles with depression and suicide among friends and family. I have a close friend whose son only recently took his own life.

To be blunt, we're in a war zone. While we all wring our hands at death in distant lands, there are 50,000 suicides a year in the EU. The silly thing is that once each and every one of us begins to discuss depression and suicide objectively over a cup of tea, in the pub, with your children, in the hairdressers, on top of Ben Nevis... the fears and prejudice will disappear.

Who knows, we could have an Olympiad for depressives (...the mind boggles)

Finally...should the old black dog ever bite you, please don't be afraid to contact our incredible medical practice here in Charmouth.

It's time we all bit back!

And a final thought...in the time it has taken me to write this short piece, three husbands, wives, daughters, sons, sisters, brothers, mothers or fathers may have unnecessarily taken their lives...



Ian Dicks

Ian Dicks, Illustrator, cartoonist, designer and part-time depressive was educated as a boarder (to make a man of him - don't worry, it didn't!) at the Woodroffe School and has lived and worked in Lyme Regis for thirty years. During this time he has been a Town Mill Trustee and manager, helped organise the first Lyme Limpics, produced a Dorset visitor magazine and written a book about the less well-known corners of Dorset...in his spare time he walks, kayaks and cycles.



HELEN PARKER MBACP
COUNSELLOR CHARMOUTH
CBT & HUMANISTIC COUNSELLING
BACP REGISTERED
OWN CONSULTING ROOM
01297 561580
hpcounselling@btinternet.com

STRESS
ANXIETY
DEPRESSION

HEALTH WELLBEING
CHRONIC ILLNESS
& DIABETES
MINDFULNESS
SELF AWARENESS

ADDICTION
ANGER
BEREAVEMENT
DEMENTIA
FAMILY ISSUES
GENDER
OCD
PTSD
RELATIONSHIPS
SEXUALITY
TRAUMA



Hansfords (Devonedge) is the white building with the blind behind the Cart in 1890

Devonedge, The Street Charmouth

I am slowly working down The Street from Barrs Lane, dealing with the group of three adjoining properties that were lost to the village in 1894 and their replacements. The last issue covered the property known as Streets, or the Arcade as it is now. This article will provide the reader with a history of the adjoining property which is now called Devonedge and previously Sunnyside, which was built on the site of the previous building. Fortunately, there are photographs and plans that allow us to visualise how it looked. It was Georgian fronted with four windows and a central door at street level with five windows on the first floor. Its history would have gone back to 1290 when it would have been one of the burgages with their half-acre plots stretching back to the north stone wall that still survives. As with many Charmouth dwellings, the owners and occupiers are separate. In this case the earliest record I have is of Richard Gollop who left it in his Will of 1725 to his niece Mary Hansford and it was known by her name, Hansfords in the Poor Rates and Land Tax Lists that followed. It was to remain in her family and her descendants until 1856, but they always rented it, choosing to live in Burton Bradstock. For most of this time, it was used as the rectory, before the present building was erected in 1828. It was rented by the Reverend William Coombe from 1747 until 1783 and then his son Rev. Brian until his death in 1818 on 30 year leases.



Frank Coles and his son at bottom of the Street

Returning to Richard Gollop, who may well be an ancestor of the famous Lyme Regis historian, Ken Gollop, whose family also originate from Charmouth. The Gollops were a very wealthy aristocratic family, whose extensive history appears in Hutchins History of Dorset. Richard was one of 12 children born to Thomas and Elizabeth Gollop of Strode in Netherbury. I do not know too much about him, apart from the fact that he also owned Mill View for which he paid £68 in 1718 from George Comings. His wife was Grace Colmer from another wealthy local family, who may well have been associated with Colmers Hill in Symondsburry. His will has survived and part of it relates to his house where Devonedge is today, as follows: "I give unto my cousin Elizabeth Hansford, daughter of my said brother George Gollop from and after the decease of my said wife all that my dwelling house and backside with all and singular the appurtenances in Charmouth aforesaid to hold to her heirs and assigns for ever". I am sure that it was Richard who built the fine house that previously stood there, as Elizabeth Hansford and her descendants owned other properties and only rented their Charmouth house and would have no need to rebuild it. She was the daughter of George Gollop of Berwick in Burton Bradstock who was married to Mary Squibb and had 10 children. They had several eminent offspring, including George who was sheriff for Dorset in 1745 and his brother, James, sheriff in 1768. Another brother, Thomas, was Captain of Portland Castle. The family lived in Berwick House - a fine ancient Mansion near Burton Bradstock.



William Holly with his Coach outside Devonedge in 1896

Elizabeth Gollop married Richard Hansford in 1722, but both were to die young; he in 1733 aged just 35 and she in 1726 aged 26. They had just the one daughter, Mary, who was to go on to lead a full life until her death in 1803, aged 77. She married twice and had seven children altogether. Her first marriage was to Benjamin Adney in 1749 and they had three children - Mary (1752-1800), George (1750-1803) and Benjamin (1750-). He died in 1759, when she was just 33 years with three young children. Benjamin's will includes the following: "I give and bequeath all that my dwelling house with its Outhouses, Garden, Orchard and a road or way through Samuel Burrows Orchard with The Appurtenances situated at Charmouth in the said County of Dorset now in the

possession of the Reverend Mr. William Combe unto Mary Adney, my wife during the Term of her natural Life without impeachment and from and after her decease. I give and bequeath the said dwelling house with its appurtenances unto my son George Adney". A rich widow, just four years later she married Lieutenant William Hansford and they are shown to live at The Rookery in Burton Bradstock. Both her eldest son, George, and daughter, Mary predeceased her and her house in Charmouth was inherited by her son-in-law, Richard Symes. An abstract of her will is as follows: "all that my messuage or dwelling house with the garden, orchard and appurtenances thereto belonging situate and being in Charmouth in the county of Dorset and now in the occupation of the Revd. Brian Combe subject to the payment such principal money and interest as may be due on the mortgage, thereof at the time of my decease to her daughter, Mary and husband Richard Symes". The family continued to live in Burton Bradstock and receive the rent from Hansfords in Charmouth. When Richard died in 1812, his son, Captain Benjamin Adney Symes, was to inherit his father's extensive estate. In 1828, aged 48, he married Mary Daniel in Burton Bradstock. The Poor Rates for Charmouth show him renting out the house until his death in 1844, where afterwards his wife, Mary is shown as the owner. His will is as follows: "I Benjamin Adney Symes of Burton Bradstock in the county of Dorset, Gentleman, a Captain in the 2nd Regiment of Somersetshire Militia 1844 give to my dear wife Mary Symes all my Estate situated in Stoke St. Gregory in Somerset now in the occupation of James House also all that dwelling house, orchard, garden and premises thereto belonging situated in the Parish of Charmouth in the occupation of John Coles." The records are incomplete for a while, but it would seem that by 1855, the house had been sold to the tenant - John Coles and would remain with this family for almost a century.

We are fortunate with regard to locating properties in the 18th century as a map reference book has survived and is very informative as it describes William Hansford having a house and orchard worth £4-10-0d, measuring 2 roods 13 perches in 1783. The more accurate Tithe Map of 1841 shows this as tithe no. 47, then owned by Benjamin Adney Symes who was renting it to John Coles.

I now wish to deal with the tenants of the property where Devonedge is today from 1725 on the death of Richard Gollop. His wife Grace was to live for a further seven years after her husband's death and was buried at St. Andrew's Church in Charmouth. The earliest Poor Rates for Charmouth are dated 1752 and Benjamin Adney is listed as paying 1d. His tenant at that time was Rev. William Coombe, who took on the post of Rector of Charmouth five years before. The house he rented from the Adneys is

one of the finest in Charmouth, judging from the surviving photos of it before its loss in a fire. For many years it was to serve as the Rectory for the Coombes. William purchased a 30-year lease from 1756, shortly after his marriage to Sarah, daughter of James Syndercombe of Symondsburry. This was renewed in 1786 by his son and a copy can be seen in the Record Office at Dorchester, for which they were paying £17 a year.



Devonedge in 1900 soon after it was rebuilt with vacant lots either side of the building

From 1747 until 1818 the Churches in Charmouth and Catherston were to be run by William and then his son, Brian Combe. There are no graves or memorials to them, yet their names appear regularly as witnesses and trustees on many deeds and documents relating to the village. A memorial to the family can be seen at the Parish Church at Shepton Mallet where they originated from as clothiers. They were related to both the famous families of Wyndham and Strode who fought in the Civil War. There is also a family connection to the Purluwant and Schalch families.



Devonedge in 1922 looking across from Pryers Yard before the shops were built on both sides

Reverend William Combe became Rector in Charmouth in 1747 under the Patronage of Richard Henvill, nephew of Anthony Ellesdon. His later obituary is very detailed and reveals what a charitable and capable man he was. It goes on to say that it is expected that his son Brian will be filling his role. But although he was rector of neighbouring Catherston, he never became rector; instead he held the position of curate for the rest of his life. This was because the patron in 1783 was Francis Phipps Henvill, living in St. Kitts, who chose his kinsman, Rev. Audain, to take on the position. This gentleman was rarely there and his work was carried out instead by his deputy Brian Combe. Brian was left a large fortune by his father and bought a number of properties both in Charmouth and the neighbourhood. He would also assist villagers by giving



The scene in 1972 when a bus crashed into the wall of the Gallery

them mortgages for their houses. He purchased Backlands Farm, to the north of The Street from James Warden, who had bought most of the village in 1788. Brian never married and when he died in 1818 left his considerable estate to his nieces: Frances Purllement, Jane Purllement, Catherine Williams and Frances Warren. He lived with his mother, Catherine and aunt, Mary Coffin at Hansfords until his death in 1818. Brian left £200 a year to his aunt, Mary Coffin, from his estate until her death in 1822. Her own will was very generous to her servants, Rachel and Edward Woonton, who continued to rent the house after she died. Edward appears in the List of voters for the village for many years as a gardener. Their slate slab memorial at St. Andrew's Church is inscribed as follows: "In memory of EDWARD WOONTON/of this parish who departed/ this life the 25* day of June/1840 aged 64 years/Also of RACHEL Relict of the above who departed/this life the 30* day of Oct 1841 aged 68 years". In that year, John Coles took on the lease and moved from the adjoining property, then known as Streets, where his family had been bakers from 1807. The Census for 1841 shows him aged 30 living with his wife, Elizabeth, aged 32, and two young children. Their business flourished and they had more children. He appears on the Voters List as a baker and in 1856 his qualification changed to property owner, which must have been the year he purchased the freehold from the Symes family. By 1861 he was aged 50 and described himself as baker and confectioner. He had five children living with him. The youngest, Francis took on the business from his father when he died in 1879 aged 66. In the year 1891 he was aged 45 and married Lilian Dare of Bowshot Farm in Wootton Fitzpaine, aged 28, in the parish church in Charmouth. Village Historian, Reginald Pavey wrote that: "Coles was a member of the church Choir and Churchwarden for many years. His wife and her sister looked after the shop, and he drove his van delivering. When the shop was destroyed by fire in 1894, Coles at once began to build another to take its place. The result was Sunnyside, afterwards named Devon Edge. Gollop and Hann, who were the masons employed, encountered great difficulties when it came to building the west wall which adjoined Pryer's property. Unfortunately, the Pryers were not on speaking terms

and Pryer refused to allow scaffolding on his side. They had to lean over and plaster each row of bricks from their side during the building operations. Mrs Coles opened their new house as a lodging house with two or three sets of rooms. At first probably this was attractive to visitors, but unfortunately it was too large for the village and Mrs. Coles found that it did not pay. Coles died in February 1925".

The 1927 Kelly's Directory has Frank W. Gamble as proprietor of Sunnyside, at that time a private hotel. He is also shown as a baker. The next directory for 1935 has George Grant as owner. By 1939 it was under James Fripp, who is the gentleman who renamed it Devonedge. Soon after the war, Harris of Lyme bought the premises and turned it into flats. The old cake shop disappeared and a gift shop/Post Office and butchers replaced it.



Devonedge in 1980 when part of it was the Post Office and Grinters the Butchers.

In 1972 A cider lorry careered out of control down The Street, just missing a group of children on the pavement and then shearing off the rear of a bus and crashing into a parked van. Fortunately, the only casualty was William Beasley who was cut about the head and arms whilst the bus towered above him outside the Devon Edge Gift Shop. The van, which belonged to Morgan's, the newsagents, was a write-off. Today, Devonedge, the hairdressers and C & D E Pattimore, the butchers, run their businesses in what would once have been Coles Bakery and Confectioners.



Devonedge today.

I have enjoyed researching this article for at last I have located the site of the rectory, before the one we see today was built on a field in 1827. If you wish to find out more about this and any other buildings in Charmouth - do go to my website - freshford.com - and use the search engine on the home page or click on the links.

Neil Mattingly

The Night the Earth Moved

When we arrived in New Zealand recently, thoughts of earthquakes and the Pacific 'Ring of Fire' were in the back of our minds. But what was the chance of a major quake occurring whilst we were travelling around North and South Islands? Precious little... or so we thought.

We explored the spectacularly unspoilt scenery, momentarily distracted from the fact that terra firma in New Zealand is decidedly less than firm. But it was our arrival in Art Deco Napier, on North Island's east coast, that brought the deadly consequences home to us. In 1931, a 7.9-magnitude quake struck 15 kilometres north that razed the cities of Napier and nearby Hastings in beautiful Hawke's Bay. Further aftershocks, fires and an empty reservoir ensured total devastation. Two hundred and fifty-six people died and many thousands were injured. The rebuilding of Napier was achieved less than two years later in the attractive Art Deco style, but at a great cost in terms of upheaval and lives lost.

We travelled south towards Wellington, aware that across Cook Strait on South Island lay Christchurch with its 2011 quake-devastated cathedral and city centre. We knew that visiting the city would once again bring to mind the stark reality of earthquakes. But that reality was to hit us sooner than we could possibly have anticipated.

We arrived in Wellington on 13th November and checked into Plimmer Towers, a part-office, part-hotel complex in the Central Business District. Bob casually enquired at the reception how the structure would fare in a major quake and, after staff reassurances that it was fully quake-resistant, we took the lift to our 22nd floor room – the hotel's top floor. From there, we surveyed the harbour and numerous other adjacent high-rise buildings. What we didn't realise then – and we know now – is that Plimmer Towers, the seventh highest building in Wellington, has the highest hotel floor in the city... and we were on it.

That night, I dreamt I heard Bob's voice telling me we were in the middle of an earthquake. Seconds later, the realisation dawned that I wasn't dreaming. Just after midnight, for three-and-a-half minutes, or what seemed like an eternity, our tower room moved. First it swayed, then it rotated. For the grand finale, it felt as if we had been grasped by a giant hand as the violent shaking and rocking became so severe that we realised Plimmer Towers, or one of the neighbouring towers, might implode and cause untold damage and loss of life.

When the tremors finally abated, we thanked our lucky stars, dressed hastily, grabbed our coats and made our way down

the internal fire escape after gesticulating to two anxious non-English speaking ladies outside our door that they needed to head to ground level. Few people were staying at the hotel as it was early in the season and we encountered no one on our way down the stairs. But we did notice how the concrete floor had cracked open where it met the stairs at each level, how the wall coverings had been stretched and warped, and how water was pouring around us from the many damaged pipes. Once at reception, we encountered a handful of other guests and headed into the street, where flashing lights from emergency and police vehicles and sirens filled the night. There were no other hotels in the vicinity; only the dark outlines of tall office blocks against the black sky. Hotel staff gradually arrived and, after a while in the chilly night air, we were offered coffee and

wind-up torches. Then, at 3am, it was back to bed... and a severe aftershock at 4.40am. Sleep wasn't an option, so we waited quietly until dawn.

A walk around Wellington in daylight a few hours later revealed ferries in Cook Strait unable to dock, deep fissures in the tarmac in the port area; shattered shop windows with mannequins lying on their sides; and bricks, slates and tiles littering the damaged pavements. Much of the Central Business District had been cordoned off by police, who were on every street corner. Had the quake occurred during the day, there would no doubt have been casualties in Wellington. In the days that followed, several large buildings were earmarked for demolition and 60 were closed, deemed unsafe. Needless to say, we checked out of our 'tower with a view' and found a motel with a ground floor room a few miles up

the coast as aftershocks continued.

The epicentre of the 7.8-magnitude quake, one of the most powerful ever recorded in New Zealand, was near Kaikoura on the north east coast of South Island, 160 miles away. Yet Wellington experienced the same severe tremor intensity. Two days later, we were due in Kaikoura, a popular coastal town renowned for marine mammal encounters, but Bob necessarily changed our itinerary and we ventured to the west coast for a few days. On our way to Christchurch, we saw large convoys of Army vehicles with equipment, supplies and water for Kaikoura residents and tourists who had been cut off by landslips and badly damaged roads. Two people in the vicinity had died and several were injured.

We will be ever thankful for the structural integrity of Plimmer Towers and the surrounding office buildings that night – the night the earth moved.

Lesley Dunlop



Fissures by the harbour

Jim Allen
Roofing and Building Contractor



Brickwork, Chimneys & Fireplaces Roofing Repairs & Guttering Stonework Fencing Carpentry & Property Maintenance Patios

No job too big or too small

Tel: 01308 863809 Mobile: 07976 372045
E-mail: alljm996@aol.com Website: www.jimallenbuilding.co.uk

SB Plumbing & Heating Services



From Ballcocks to Boilers

- Natural Gas & LPG boilers installed and serviced.
- Oil Boiler servicing.
- Central Heating upgrades and systems Powerflushed.
- General plumbing and Central Heating system installation, Maintenance and repairs.

Tel: 01297 23321 / 07764 193184

Charmouth Bed & Breakfast

- All rooms ensuite – baths in some rooms
- Quiet location
- Double rooms with king size beds
- Twin rooms
- Family suites with two bedrooms
- Easy access to the beach with no hills!
- Full breakfast included
- Fresh ground coffee – espresso, latte, cappuccino
- Private off road car park
- Cream teas



Book direct at
www.hensleighhouse.co.uk
or on 01297 560830

Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth

Charmouth Bakery

Open 6 days a week
8am – 4pm

Local supplier of freshly baked bread and cakes

Available to order, or from our premises, 50yds along Barr's Lane (by side of P.O.)

Baps, Finger Rolls, French Sticks, Granary Sticks

No order too big or too small



Have your weekly bakery produce delivered to your door

Please ring for more information
01297 560213

Peter Bagley Paintings

A small studio gallery, selling watercolour paintings by Peter Bagley

Open most weekends
Summer opening 11am to 4pm
Winter times as posted


Visitors welcome at other times, but please phone first - 01297 560063

AURORA
St Andrew's Drive, off Lower Sea Lane
Charmouth, Dorset, DT6 6LN



Geoff Townson - Paintings
Dorset Landscapes in Oils & Acrylics
Happy to discuss Commissions and Tuition
Phone 01297 561337 Mobile 07748 752927
www.geofftownson.co.uk

Jane Townson - Textiles
Bags, necklaces, scarves, hats, throws
teddies (CE compliant) and 2D textile landscapes



Visit our studios at 7 Hammonds Mead, Charmouth DT6 6QX
Browse original work, reproductions & cards

Spring Birding Update in Charmouth

The dark mornings of winter are long behind us now and it's so nice to wake to the sound of birdsong again. In early March, gardens and hedgerows are coming to life and having survived the worst of the winter our resident birds are pairing up and preparing for another busy breeding season. Robin, Blackbird, Dunnock and Wren are in full song, establishing territories and making ready for the nesting season.



A Robin in full song in early spring

Full of character, the familiar garden Robin is a very common resident with an estimated 5.5 million pairs in the UK. Everybody knows this Christmas card favourite but let me suggest that next time you come across a Robin just take a few moments to stop and look and maybe listen (if he's singing). I promise that however you're feeling it will lift your spirits. With any luck, in a few weeks' time the pair of Robins which have built a nest tucked away in a quiet corner of the garden will successfully fledge their brood and we will be treated to the sight of their youngsters making their first forays into the world.



Juvenile Robin – no Red but has same character as adult.

Not so common nationally with only 15,000 pairs, we are so fortunate that our local cliffs and coastline support a resident population of Stonechat. Of similar general appearance and behaviour as the Robin, these hardy Chats can be seen perching conspicuously from a convenient gorse bush or bramble. When the beach is quieter I've seen them feeding on insects on the shoreline seaweed and perching on the carpark railings near the Heritage Centre - lovely birds that are full of character.



Locally a fairly common resident, this adult male Stonechat looks out over the cliffs

So much for our resident species, but as the days lengthen and temperatures begin to rise our resident birds are joined by millions of migrants, driven to take advantage of the abundant food supply of summer, to hold territory and to breed.

SUMMER ARRIVALS

MARCH | So birding-wise, what should we be looking out for during the next four months? And which are the first migrants to arrive in spring?

Wheatear begin to arrive at isolated locations and in small numbers during March. They are one of the key species which to the birder herald the start of spring. In Charmouth, check out the beach, car parks or any short rough grassland early in the morning from mid-March onwards. In Lyme Regis have a look on Monmouth Beach, the stones at the end of the Cobb/Harbour North Wall or the Golf Course and you may be lucky to see a beautiful spring Wheatear.



An early morning Wheatear in/off the sea and resting on a Charmouth Beach Hut

Swallows have spent our cold winter months on their long migration to Africa and back and in March are heading northwards with the first few arriving on our shores towards the end of the month. The weather can still be poor and the first I saw on Charmouth beach last year (2016) was in shocking gale-force winds on the 26th March. Swallows are not the first hirundines to arrive though and generally Sand Martin start to appear from mid-March onwards. Last year, I saw my first Sand Martin on 20th March, hawking for insects at great speed above Charmouth River, near the footbridge. Always difficult to photograph, I did manage to fluke a picture but let's just say it was a 'record shot' and I won't bother to post it here!

Listen out too for the song of the Chiffchaff, a common small dusky olive woodland warbler with 750,000 pairs in the UK during the summer – it's well-defined, even-paced notes in random sequence "chip-chap-chiff-chap-chap-chiff-chee" – another harbinger of spring.

APRIL | Following on shortly behind the Chiffchaff is another very small, active woodland bird - the Willow Warbler. Visually, it's pretty difficult to split these two birds in the field but their songs are very different and distinctive: the Willow Warbler's short, sweet, cadence, descending overall making it easy to identify this wonderful bird whereas the Chiffchaff repeats its name over and over again. A few Willow Warbler stop to breed locally but the vast majority of the two million pairs which visit the UK for the summer breed further north. Most overfly the south coast but many appear on the south coast as passage birds, briefly stopping-over to refuel on their northward migration.

Herring Gulls are busy nesting on the rooftops of local towns and villages. They are raucous at the best of times and they have excellent vision and are constantly looking out for Kites, Crows and Ravens which spell danger to their own nesting success. If they suddenly fly up en masse calling loudly and incessantly, then look up and you may be fortunate enough to see an Osprey checking out the river for a fishy meal on its northward migration. The gulls go crazy if one of these large raptors flies over.

MAY | May is wader passage time and each Spring Charmouth and Lyme Regis beaches play host to small numbers of Whimbrel, Dunlin, Sanderling, Oystercatcher, Redshank, Turnstone, Ringed Plover

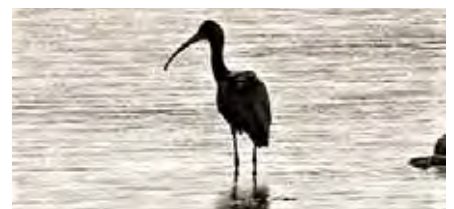
and even the occasional Grey Plover. I took this photo early one morning in May 2016 as this individual stopped briefly to rest on its migration. Something on this beach works for them. I have witnessed wading birds bathing at low tide in the fresh water of the River Char flowing out across the beach.



A Grey Plover stops to rest briefly where the river flows out across Charmouth beach

Look out also for Common Sandpiper which favour the river banks near the footbridge but can sometimes be seen on the shoreline and rocks near the Heritage Centre.

JUNE | By June, spring migration is pretty much over and most birds are in their breeding territories (and some have already finished nesting). A few Reed Warbler and Whitethroat stop to breed locally and can be seen along the river and in the scrubland and Stonechat continue to show well along the cliffs. The river also plays host to Kingfisher, Grey Wagtail, Cormorant, Heron, Little Egret and on occasions exotic visitors like the rare Glossy Ibis could show up.



I couldn't believe my eyes to see this Glossy Ibis on the river only 30 metres north of the footbridge

So dust off the binoculars and take a look; there aren't just Mallard Ducks and Black-headed Gulls down by the river and on the shoreline but much, much more! And by the way, I have seen all the birds species featured in this Birding Update within ½ mile radius of the Charmouth Heritage Centre.

And to finish, if you saw my last report, I suggested putting out a cut apple to attract over-wintering Blackcap? If anyone did have Blackcap (or any other interesting winter sightings for that matter, a Black Redstart for example) in and around the village during Dec – Mar, please do get in touch. I would be interested to hear from you! I have heard about one garden in Charmouth which regularly plays host to ten Pheasants and another in Lyme Regis which held a Water Rail during the cold winter months!



A female Blackcap - winter visitor to my garden feeders.

I can be contacted through the links below or via the Editorial team at Shoreline magazine. Happy Spring Birding!

Richard Phillips

Blog: www.charmouthbirding.blogspot.co.uk
Twitter: @cork_head

AXMINSTER PRINTING CO. LTD.

www.axminsterprinting.co.uk

Email: keith or jane @axminsterprinting.co.uk

- **Printers of Private and Business Stationery:**
Including: Headings, Business Cards, Compliment Slips, Headed Cards, Postcards, Invoices, Wedding Stationery, single through to multi colour, etc.
- **Well Stocked Stationery Shop:**
Including: Recycled Range, Children's Activity Kits, Shredders, Laminators, Trimmers, etc.
- **Card Making and Craft Supplies**
- **Craft Demos**
- **Computer Consumables:**
Including: CD's, DVD's, Memory Sticks, Printer Cartridges, Extensive range of Printer Paper, Printer Cables, Printers, etc. all at competitive prices.
- **Full Colour Posters A4, A3, A2, A1**
- **Laminating** - from Business Card to A1 size

WEST STREET, AXMINSTER DEVON EX13 5NU **01297 32266**



We carry out all forms of work...

- | Extensions |
- | Renovations |
- | New Build |

Otters Holt, Weycroft, Axminster EX13 7LN

Tel 01297 561060

Email: charlie@crosby-builders.com
www.crosby-builders.com



KOMIT KOMPOST

Based on Farmyard Manure

Free of unpleasant odours

Feeds, conditions and suppresses weeds

Bulk bags, 40 litre bags or loose bulk

COMPOSTED MANURE, MULCH, POTTING COMPOST, TOPSOIL AND WOODCHIP

Telephone: Komit Kompost on 01308 863054 or 07974 943411
Email: komitkompost@hotmail.co.uk Web: www.komitkompost.co.uk

herringbone

coastal creatives charmouth

handmade
gifts local
textiles art
vintage

The Street Charmouth DT6 6PE
herringbonecharmouth@gmail.com
07478 325777

Sharp Acupuncture Clinic

Hilary Sharp Lic Ac. MBAC



Clinics
AXMINSTER
HONITON
CHARMOUTH
0773 863 0186

www.hilarysharp.co.uk
hilarysharp@btinternet.com

BYMEAD HOUSE

Nursing & Residential Home



Bymead House is a medium sized Nursing and Residential family run home in the picturesque seaside village of Charmouth. Our philosophy focuses on personal choice, individual freedom and comprehensive care which is shared by all our staff and is reflected in the home's calm and friendly atmosphere. At Bymead quality care and a home from home is truly embraced. We offer a highly professional and exclusive care service for the elderly with a personal touch.

Recently awarded GOOD following our CQC Inspection under the new regulations.

For further details or to arrange a visit please contact the Registered Manager Lisa Walters on 01297 560620.

Bymead House, Axminster Road, Charmouth, DT6 6BS.

bymeadhouse@gmail.com

www.bymead.co.uk

To advertise in Shoreline please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

Salade tiède - Warm salad



We are just beginning to welcome warmer weather and with that in mind comes the season of salads. In my experience these are sometimes perceived by some as a rabbit food snack! As a great lover of salads myself I am always looking for ideas to tempt even the biggest sceptic. To me, a good salad has to have colour and full flavours with lots of different textures but satisfying enough for a healthy appetite.

This recipe is quick and easy to create, and is packed with flavour.

SWEET POTATO, SPINACH AND GRILLED GOATS CHEESE WARM SALAD WITH PARMA HAM CRISPS

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Total time: 20 minutes

Serves: 2 as a light snack or starter

Ingredients

1 large sweet potato, peeled and cut into 1cm squares

50g baby spinach leaves

2 tbsp olive or rapeseed oil

1 tsp chopped fresh mint

1 tsp chopped rosemary

1 tsp ground cumin

4 slices Parma ham

1 x 100g goats cheese - I love using Somerset Capricorn goats cheese as it is less acidic than most and grills very well

4 dried apricots, soaked in boiling water for 5 minutes and drained well

35g walnuts coarsely chopped

1 tbsp clear honey

Small knob butter

Sea salt and black pepper

METHOD

Heat the oil in a large pan and sauté the sweet potato on a moderate heat, for about 6 minutes, until golden brown and softening slightly, turning occasionally. Remove from the heat.

Add the herbs and cumin, season and mix well.

Cut the goats cheese in half vertically and place cut side up on a tray. Place under a hot grill for about 4 minutes, until beginning to brown and starting to melt.

Toss the spinach into the pan with the sweet potato and stir gently without breaking the spinach down too much. You want to keep the vibrant and slight crispness to the spinach without wilting it too much.

Snip the dried apricots into thin slices.

Divide the sweet potato mixture onto two serving plates, sprinkle over the dried apricots and honeyed walnuts. Place one piece of the goats cheese on top of each and finish with the Parma ham.

Honeyed walnuts

Melt a knob of butter on a low heat and add the honey. Add the walnuts and stir well. Cook for

2 minutes until bubbling and starting to brown. Leave to cool.

Parma ham crisps

Place the slices of Parma ham onto a baking tray or frying pan. You can either grill, dry-fry or bake to make a lovely crispy result which will complement the cheese and can be used to dunk into its molten puddle. This will take about 1 minute, turning the ham over halfway through cooking. Take care as it can burn quite quickly. This can be made well ahead.

Vegetarian Option

Replace the Parma ham with bruschetta sticks or thinly sliced celery sticks.

Tip: Any remaining spinach makes a delicious soup. Simply sauté a diced onion and a few sliced mushrooms in a little butter until cooked. Add the spinach and some of the remaining herbs. If you have any salad leaves that need using up, pop them in as well. Stir well and cook for 3 minutes. Add enough milk to make a slightly thin mixture - not too much, you can always thin it later. At this point I pop in a

handful of any cheese I have in the fridge - Cheshire is really tasty, as is feta or some lovely blue cheese. Blitz the mixture with a blender or liquidize until smooth. Season to taste. Serve with some crushed crispy Parma ham and a swirl of cream.

My background has been in many different aspects of catering, beginning as a commis chef in a game and fish restaurant in Surrey. I have been a personal chef to a Brigadier, chef at a golf club and after running a restaurant for someone else, I decided it was time to run my own restaurant in Newton Popleford in Devon. For the last seven years my husband Nick and I have been running the Abbots House in Charmouth, initially as a Restaurant with Rooms and then a Bed and Breakfast. We are now concentrating on other projects but have a monthly pop-up restaurant with tastes from around the world.

I am passionate about food with flavour and am constantly creating new ideas, tips and recipes for my blog - sheilaspantry.com

Sheila Gilbey

the abbots house 

The Street Charmouth DT6 6QF

A Taste of... Evening

We have our Monthly Pop-up Restaurant featuring tastes from around the world.

March 11th - Italy
April 8th - Malaysia
May 13th - Spain

If you wish to see the set menu for the evening or find out about our Outside Catering please visit our website www.abbotshouse.co.uk

For Information and Reservations call Sheila or Nick
01297 560339
Blog: sheilaspantry.com

Cove Cottage (1906-2017) R.I.P.



Cove Cottage as it was shortly before its demolition in 2017

By the time this article is read, Charmouth will have lost an important part of its heritage. For Cove Cottage was demolished at the end of February. I thought I would attempt to find out briefly its history as a record for the future. A number of early postcards exist showing it from when it was built in 1906. At that time, it was only the fifth property to have been built in Higher Sea Lane. The oldest was Sea Horse House (Gresham House) in 1801, now demolished. Then Victoria Cottage, The Cottage, Lavender Cottage and Roberts Cottage were built after their plots were auctioned off by the Lord of the Manor, Charles Coulton. He was a Solicitor living in Kings Lynn who had bought the manor and intended creating an estate along Higher Sea Lane. He subdivided the lands and it was sold off in two auctions in 1898 and 1904. Those unsold parcels of land were sold off later by him or Douglas Pass who bought the balance.

We have George Swale Alefounder to thank for purchasing the plot from Coulton and building what became known as The Bungalow and later named Cove Cottage. He originated from Ipswich, from a wealthy land owning family in the town. Born in 1849, he lived and worked there until he married Ellen Martha Smith in 1878 and they moved to Brighton. The censuses always show him as of "Independent Means" and it would seem that his income derived from a number of houses that he owned in both Ipswich and Brighton. He was also a Director of the Kangarilla Silver Mines in Australia and of Alefounder & King, mechanical engineers. The National Archives has details of this latter company, which records him living in 1906 at The Bungalow, Charmouth, the year it was built. By this time, he was a widower and the 1911 Census has him aged 62 on his own living off "private means". A search of the Electoral Rolls for Charmouth show that by 1922 a Miss Gertrude Evans was also living there. But in 1926 she had built a large house known as Hammonds Mead not far from his, where she was to live until after the Second World War. When she died, she gave the field to the south and another on the other side of the river to the village, never to be built on. The house was to become a hotel

and was later demolished and several houses built on the site.

I interviewed 93-year-old Derrick Warren a couple of years before he died and he told me that he remembered Mr. Alefounder well as he never wore clothes on the beach and his aunt used to say "It's only Alefounder, he'll use his newspaper!" When he died in Charmouth in 1926, The Bungalow was bought by Theodore Charles Fugard, who lived on his own, but is shown as moving to the Lears in Charmouth in 1933. Miss Alice Amelia Kelly was the next owner. She was there until the war, after which it was bought by Herbert Charles Dibben. Subsequent owners for those interested can be found in the Electoral Rolls for the village which are held at the Record Office in Dorchester.

A realisation of what the village has lost in the demolition of this property is vividly seen in the postcard shown here, dated 13th August 1907, of a view from the side of the 'Lookout' towards Higher Sea Lane. The Bungalow can be seen behind the Coastguard with his telescope with its distinctive windows set into the roof. To the right is The Sanctuary. In the foreground,



Cove Cottage in 1907, behind Coast Guard with telescope. The Sanctuary to the right

just behind the old chap leaning against a gate is the Battery for ammunition used by the Coastguards. It would seem that they would practise using their gun by firing a shell out to sea and then retrieving it when the sea went out and reusing it. I have only touched the surface of the history of this property and would be grateful for further information to add to my website at freshford.com/charmouth.

I do so hope that after reading this, more villagers are aware of how, in time, we could lose more of the village's heritage if we are not careful.

Neil Mattingly

See the story of Cove Cottage, with additional photos and information, at <http://www.freshford.com/cove%20cottage.html>

The Court - Charmouth

SMALL BUSINESS OFFICES
TO LET

Tel: 01297 560033
www.thecourtcharmouth.co.uk



Marshall Noel
your local Accountants for:

Tax Returns, Accounts, Vat Returns,
Book-keeping, Wages

And general practical help on all
accountancy matters

Contact Peter Noel on 01297 560078
e-mail: peter@marshall-noel.co.uk

or call in at the Court, The Street, Charmouth, DT6 6PE

Beach Cleaning



Clean the beach? Of what? Why? With what?

Rosalind Cole wrote in the last Shoreline about microbeads and, despite their minute size, the big impact they have on marine life. But what about other, larger items of rubbish which float around at sea, and end up on our beaches?

Go to almost any beach in the world and you will find litter along the strandline, blown into corners. The majority of this is plastic of all sorts: bags, bottles, balloons, fishing line and nets, bits of rope and twine, food wrappers, cotton bud sticks: a huge range of items, and as plastic generally floats, it can drift around the world's seas, and arrive on our beaches. Some items are big, others tiny. It looks terrible, harms or even kills wildlife, is even a hazard to our own health, and costs millions to clean up.

Where does all the rubbish come from? There are many sources of this litter, both accidental and deliberate: fishing activities, from sewage pipes, thrown or lost overboard ship, blown off roads, dropped litter, stuff just thrown away without thought...

Wildlife can become entangled in larger pieces of litter such as ropes or nets, fishing lines (imagine the damage if hooks are still attached), and those groups of plastic rings used to hold drinks cans together. Seals and other marine mammals can drown through becoming trapped by abandoned or lost plastic fishing nets, or parts of them. Crabs and fish can get caught in discarded fishing line and may become tethered to the seabed. Plastics may be used as bird nesting material, but can then trap, or be eaten by, the young.

Hundreds of species, and tens of thousands of animals and birds accidentally eat bits of litter. Floating plastic bags and balloons look just like jellyfish, a favourite food of turtles, which mistakenly eat the bags, blocking their stomachs, often leading to death from starvation. Plastics ingested by birds or fish can block or damage their digestive systems, and may give them a false sense of being full. Adult birds may well feed their chicks bits of plastic in error.

Plastic litter on beaches has increased 140% since 1994. Despite the advertising, plastic never fully biodegrades. Over hundreds of years it will break down into smaller and smaller pieces, especially under UV light, but will not disappear. These microplastic particles are being ingested by many species of fish and birds, even mussels and prawns. So not only do animals eat plastic directly, they may eat other creatures which

have already ingested bits of plastic; plastic thus accumulating up the food chain.

All this floating debris can also disturb the overall marine ecology. Where microplastics and other rubbish collect on or near the surface of the ocean in large volumes, they block sunlight from reaching plankton and algae in the water below. Algae and plankton are the most common productive organisms in the marine food web i.e. they can produce their own nutrients from oxygen, carbon, and sunlight and are at base of the food chain so, if they are affected, everything above them in the food chain is affected too.

Plastics are lightweight, durable, and can be made into numerous types of object, but inappropriately handled waste plastics cause significant environmental threat, and as they float, can even be found on the shores of remote uninhabited islands. Simplistically, traditional plastics are made of hydrocarbon or carbon monomers which are polymerised, and other chemicals such as dyes or flame-retardants added. The final polymer resins are usually in the form of pellets about the size of a lentil, known as nurdles. Countless billions of these nurdles are used as raw material each year to make nearly all of our plastic packaging and products, but spills and mishandling by industry can mean many nurdles wash up on our shores. Unlike large pieces of plastic marine litter, nurdles are so small that they go largely unnoticed – but just have a close look at our strandline. Seabirds easily mistake these plastic pellets for fish eggs and feed them to chicks, which die of starvation.

Researchers have been tracking plastic ingestion by seabirds for decades, and although figures vary depending on the source, in 1960 plastic was found in the stomachs of fewer than 5%, but now, research has found that about 90% of seabirds around the British coast have some plastic in their stomachs. One or two bits might not cause a problem, depending on what they are, but dozens, maybe even a couple of hundred plastic bits have been found in the stomachs of dead seabirds.

Decades of discarded plastic bottles, bags and styrofoam cups are disintegrating at sea under the sun's UV rays, releasing colourants and toxic chemicals into the water, some of which have been linked to environmental and health problems. Plastics are known to accumulate other chemicals from the environment, making the result worse.

So what can we do to help?

Apart from trying to reduce our use of disposable plastic products, not creating litter, and not releasing balloons into the



atmosphere, why not come along to a beach clean? Hopefully everyone is aware that beach cleans happen all around the coast; here they happen several times a year, sometimes organised by the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, sometimes by others, and many of us I know just collect bits of rubbish when we happen to see them.

Dorset Litter Free Coast and Sea has provided CHCC with beach clean equipment, funded by Hewlett Packard following a storm in 2014, during which many ink cartridges were lost at sea. We found several of these cartridges here last year. While collecting this year, CHCC is studying whether our beach is 'right-' or 'left-handed'. We have read that currents affect floating objects differently and thus some beaches become more likely to accumulate 'lefts', with 'rights' on different beaches, or a different part of the beach. We want to see whether this is so here in Charmouth, by collecting all shoes, boots and gloves which drift onto the shore during the year. What type of beach do we have? Take any lefts or rights found on this beach to the Heritage Centre. Please, not from anywhere else!

As part of UK research and government consultation on microplastics and their effect on the environment, we are also making a collection of nurdles, so if you collect any here on the beach, please take them to the Heritage Coast Centre and we will feed back numbers found.

Thank you to everyone who does not create litter, who takes their rubbish home, who participates in beach cleans, and who collects rubbish off the beach on their own. It all helps.

There will be a Beach Clean on Saturday 22nd April between 10.30 and 12.00. Please meet outside the Heritage Coast Centre about 10.15. Hope to see you there.

Eden Thomson



Distant Shorelines with Anna and Tony Winters at Stirling Point, Bluff, New Zealand

Please Support Shoreline's Advertisers

ADVERTORIAL



Getting Charmouth Healthier and Fitter

Last year I had the opportunity to change my lifestyle and retire from the corporate world of the public sector in London, move permanently to Charmouth to be with my wife and son and start a new chapter in my life.

One of the most important things I have learnt in my past 58 years is that exercise is key to improving one's quality of life. As a licensed sports coach, I have seen at first hand the benefits exercise can bring, both mentally and physically. These can range from greater mobility and flexibility, reducing stress and preventing the risks of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia and strokes, to name but a few.

One of the unique joys of exercise is the pleasure it gives when taking part in a joint endeavour with other people. In my case that has ranged from jogging with a friend, taking part in a 5k run in Seaton, to running marathons at home and in foreign lands: London and Canada. However, there is something equally satisfying in taking a brisk walk or a jog on a sunny day by yourself. Whatever your exercise passion, doing something is the important step to take. In my experience finding a club or an exercise 'buddy' helps maintain motivation and focus during those days when we just want to stay at home and watch TV. I know, I have been there!!!

I have now established myself as a sports coach in Charmouth, where I deliver targeted and flexible coaching to a range of clients, with age being no limitation. My main aim is to help clients overcome any barriers they may have to exercise and enable them to determine what works for them to achieve their own fitness goals. At the end of the day whatever plan/routine you follow, it must work for you. My role is simply to help clients to identify their exercise goals, to produce an action plan that they own and to monitor progress as they move forward towards a more active life.

Using current good coaching practice, set against the backdrop of the stunning Jurassic Coast to inspire and motivate, I am able to offer a personal, friendly and inexpensive service to meet individual fitness and well-being needs. My aim in providing this service is to help local people get healthier and fitter in an enjoyable way.

If you think you could benefit, here are my contact details:

John R. Smith - Licensed Coach

Jurassic Performance Coaching – Mobile: 07929 621802
Email:jurassicperformancecoaching@gmail.com

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



We have had a record breaking year at the Heritage Centre with our final visitor number for 2016 at 108,822 which includes the school groups. Emma Burt was our 100,000th visitor back in November. Our fossil walks have been popular in 2016 and, with this in mind, we hope to increase their number in 2017. Along with the walks and schools, our theatre numbers were up on 2015. Chairman

Jim Rose and Penny Rose very kindly opened the Centre along with our volunteers over the Christmas period and with such fantastic weather they welcomed over 2,000 people.



100,000th visitor, Emma Burt

The work party have been busy over the winter creating new seating in our theatre so we have more space for school groups and talks. After winning the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service last year, we are currently developing a new display in the education room where the award can be displayed along with information about the centre, the volunteers and the donations we receive. We have new displays in the centre shop along with some exciting new products provided by the London Natural History Museum.

Look out for the Heritage Centre Beach Cleans this year. Litter Free Coast and Sea received a grant which has very kindly

provided us with equipment for beach cleaning. We had a successful beach clean in January with a good turn out and lots collected. The next will be the Big Dorset Beach Clean on Saturday 22nd April. This year beach clean co-ordinator Alison Ferris is specifically collecting plastic nurdles, gloves and shoes for a future project in the Centre. If you should find these independently from Charmouth Beach then drop them into us.

We will have new recent finds on display at the centre this year with an ichthyosaur skull found and prepared by our Senior Warden Phil Davidson and Alex Moore from Forge Fossils. We also have some of the ammonite pavement from Monmouth Beach now on display after the pavement broke apart in bad weather. A new display is coming soon, dedicated to the late Dave Costin who was a local pioneering fossil collector and preparator.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the friends and volunteers at the centre who have helped make 2016 an exceptional year. If you would like to volunteer with us, we would love to hear from you.

Alison Ferris, Deputy Senior Warden



Beach clean 2017



Ichthyosaur skull

**All Shoreline issues can be seen online at
www.charmouth.org/charmouth_villagelshoreline-magazine/**

Attenborough and the Sea Dragon

The BBC, via Producer Sally Thomson, has provided us with the following information regarding a film based on Charmouth palaeontologist Chris Moore's local discovery of a new species of Ichthyosaur, featuring Sir David Attenborough. It is in the early stages of production and is not expected to be transmitted until early 2018. More details will appear in a future issue of Shoreline but, in the meantime, we wanted to whet your appetite!

"Earlier this year, Attenborough and the Giant Dinosaur was watched by more than eight million viewers, making it the most watched natural history programme on the BBC since 2011. In this film, David Attenborough will once more be out filming extraordinary fossils, this time on the Jurassic Coast.

Traces of a prehistoric sea dragon have been found within the crumbling cliffs of Dorset - a fearsome predator which ruled the ocean at the time of the dinosaurs. Its secrets have lain hidden for 200 million years and David is on a quest to uncover them. This prehistoric dragon, known as an Ichthyosaur, was shaped like a dolphin, but with eyes the size of dinner plates and jaws

like a crocodile. It is hoped that its discovery could help answer questions which have intrigued scientists for hundreds of years.

In this one-hour special for BBC One, the dragon, which is thought to be a completely new species, will be excavated, prepared, scanned, and a perfect replica of its skeleton constructed. Looking at evidence from animals across the world, from sharks to dolphins and from marine iguanas to turtles, David will piece together how it behaved and lived. Tests on the 3D computer will reveal new science about these prehistoric monsters and could change our understanding of these extraordinary creatures.

David will be there every step of the way, meeting the excavators and scientists to uncover the secrets of this superbly adapted ocean-predator. Finally, he will 'meet' this predator as it is brought back 'to life' and, with the help of CGI, we will get a glimpse of this formidable sea dragon and the Jurassic world in which it lived."

Lesley Dunlop

THE REPAIR SHOP

**My name is Ryan and I'm on the casting team at Ricochet TV part of Warner Bros TV production UK
www.ricochet.co.uk**

We are making a new television show for BBC2 called "The repair shop"; the show looks into repairing beloved and interesting possessions for people who would like to see them restored or repaired back to their original working order. The kind of items we have come across so far have ranged from inherited pocket watches to grandfather clocks, from rocking horses to drawn carriages, even from toy cars to VW campers. We have a team of experts who cover all trades such as blacksmithing, ceramics, clockmakers, upholsterers and carpenters

I am wondering if you might be able to help spread the word amongst your parish to see if anyone has an item that might be suitable they'd like to put forward?

Additionally, as well as sentimental/interesting items belonging to individuals....we'd really love to feature and repair a few items in the show that have a community value, something treasured or something essential to communities that has fallen into disrepair, perhaps has an interesting story and purpose to the village that can be restored.

For example some towns, villages and communities have certain items that are important to them; they could be memorial plaques, eroded statues, snapped weather vanes, broken sun dials, cracked gargoyles, fading carvings, or maybe the paint is peeling on your local pub's swing sign.

Please note that although a lot of things can be moved, items would need to not be permanently stuck in situ, for example

some larger statues or water fountains are great logistical feats to move. The item would be repaired at our repair shop (a barn outfitted for our experts) and given back to the community at no expense to the owner - additionally there would be broadcasted TV coverage from start to finish of the item, in the work shop and also when the item is revealed to the owner or community.

Please also note that we are receiving a lot of items and interest across the country, and sometimes they can be too big and take too long to fix, so please don't be disheartened if we can't repair it this time. If perhaps you might have something you'd love to be repaired, then please get back in touch with us at repair@ricochet.co.uk or call us on 01273 224800.



Ryan Leigh, Casting Team

*Ricochet Ltd,
Pacific House, 126 Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 3TE*

Bubbles on the Beach



Photo: Eden Thomson

An excited boy ran into the Coast Centre in Charmouth with his hands full of dirty-looking bubbles: “I found these on the beach”, he said excitedly, “are they an animal or what?”

The bubbles that day had been whipped up by strong south-westerly winds and had been moved by wind and the advancing tide to the strand-line. The bubbles, some quite large, nestled between boulders, covered the pebbles, floated on the waves and sometimes took off and flew across the beach. When the wind dropped for a while, the clumps of bubbles quivered like a gently shaken jelly and could almost have been mistaken for a living organism.

A few alliterative lines of Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s poem “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” evoke some wonderful images:

The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,

The furrow followed free;

We were the first that ever burst into the silent sea.

The off-white foam picked up by the boy was a mass of bubbles known as spume. During stormy periods, water can be churned-up and the bubbles blown for quite long distances inland. Following gales in 2011 and 2012, there were news reports of Clevelys in Lancashire and Footdee near Aberdeen being covered knee-deep in a coating of foam blown from the sea during storms. The bubbles covered boats, houses, hedges, cars and roads and, while causing hazards because obstacles became hidden, provided good opportunities for photographers to take some very unusual pictures.

How does sea water form masses of bubbles which are so persistent? Sea water, of course, is not just water; it contains various dissolved salts in addition to sodium chloride (common salt) and many minerals as well as fats, proteins, and numerous particles of natural debris along with artificial matter. As well as slimy dead animals and plants, products from the breakdown of slimy substances naturally produced by many plants and sea creatures are common.

If you ever jump from rock to rock on a beach at low tide, you will probably be wary of those covered with slippery green and brown seaweeds. These algae produce mucus (slime) composed of proteins and carbohydrates for a purpose. Mucus acts as a lubricant to reduce friction between the leafy parts (thalli) and prevents the seaweeds from drying out

particularly at low tide. Mucus also plays a part in marine plant reproduction.

Other sources of mucus can be seen in the slimy trails left by gastropods (marine snails) such as top shells, whelks, periwinkles. A gland in the fleshy foot produces mucus to smoothly lubricate its path across rocks or sand; trails are left and mucus can enter the water. Mucus is also a useful substance in reproductive processes; as an example, sea slug eggs can be found on rocks at low tide and the mucus in which the eggs are laid will protect them from drying out. Other slippery marine creatures include worms, some of which secrete mucus to aid building and/or feeding. Fish can also be very slippery. In addition, invertebrate and vertebrate creatures secrete mucus or excrete it in faecal waste either directly into the sea or into rivers which drain into the sea. All in all, there are many sources of mucus and related substances in the sea water.

Given the right atmospheric conditions and sea states, sometimes huge populations of algae will grow rapidly, large enough to be seen from satellites in space. Such algal blooms can cause sea water to foam, usually harmless to humans. However, algal blooms containing dinoflagellates and/or cyanobacteria may cause foam which can cause irritation if blown about and breathed in as an aerosol. Pollutants produced by commercial human activities such as discharges of oils, detergents or sewage from tankers way out at sea may also make sea water foam, sometimes with a brownish tinge; the causes may not be immediately apparent and would require investigation.

So, spume often contains mucus and other substances which readily allow bubbles to form, to last for a long time and sometimes to be blown about. Most spume is not harmful to humans but generally indicates a marine ecosystem which is flourishing and affected by weather and tides. Knowing some of the possible constituents of spume though, perhaps it is wise to wash your hands after handling it – just in case!

Footnote: On 23/6/16, a Channel 4 programme had a report on snail slime as a product with antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties to be used daily for facial cleansing and toning. Apparently the idea started in South Korea and now many pots of this molluscan goo are selling in the UK. Please do let me know what happens if you try some!

Rosalind Cole

To advertise in Shoreline please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

Blazon

Ixpect visitors wonder why the burghers of Charmouth don't use a fossil ammonite for their heraldic badge over the entrance to the Elms. They seem to be used as illustrations or decoration for most other things in the village. Charmouth no doubt knows that an heraldic ammonite would not be at all unique. Indeed many towns use them and across the world they are surprisingly common. In England the Jurassic rocks stretch across the country like a sash from south west to north east where there is another coast akin to Dorset. The seaside town of Whitby in North Yorkshire has a coat of arms which used to have three ammonites, although nowadays they have reverted to being coiled serpents as they were before the legend of St. Hilda turned them to stone. Nor is the ammonite the only heraldic fossil. There are numerous examples of fossil trilobites in heraldry including the fabled Dudley Locust *Calymene Blumenbachii* which I knew well as a boy in the postwar industrial West Midlands. It featured in the Dudley town coat of arms in the days when it was a County Borough, a memorial to the limestone mining industry there which was a major prop of the industrial revolution. The town sits upon hills of Silurian limestone, at about 430 million years old, more than twice the age of the Charmouth Jurassic, which are honeycombed with tunnels and spectacular caverns from which the fossils were taken by generations of miners. Health and Safety now prohibits access to the caverns but you can turn yourself into a sort of giant endoscopy and examine the hills from a barge inside the canal tunnel beneath them, and fascinating it is too.

But rising above any others Charmouth has something that really is unique. Apart from abundant ichthyosaur finds, it has *Scelidosaurus* the Charmouth dinosaur. Shortly after we moved to live here in millennium year, posters for the Lyme Regis News carried the headline CHARMOUTH: BABY DINOSAUR IS FOUND. I have kept a photo of the poster for years and wrote at the time how it conjured up absurd images of a sobbing infant, alternately cuddled and scolded, being reunited with relieved parents by a smiling beach attendant. Whatever the real story was I was prepared to be disappointed. I should have known better. The account of that discovery might be the biggest scoop the paper will ever have. It is the most complete and perfect example of a British dinosaur ever known. Casts of it can be seen in natural history museums all over the world. Only eight examples have ever been discovered.

What a splendid heraldic device it would make for a town badge. *Scelidosaurus* was a heavily armoured reptile, this famous one about the size of a large pig with a long thick neck and tail. Just imagine the blazon description: *azure, a fess sable, above an ichthyosaur embowed, below a scelidosaurus statant* which in common English becomes "On a blue background for the sea, a black bar to represent the cliffs, a fossil ichthyosaur leaping like a dolphin at the top and at the bottom, standing on his own four feet, *Scelidosaurus* the Charmouth dinosaur."

Alan Dodson



Two New Centres for the Jurassic Coast: Jurassic La La Land and the Real Thing

As I am sure many of you know, Seaton Jurassic (SJ) opened its doors last April but it also closed them in December. They won't open again until the February half-term having, according to the local papers, received 40,000 visitors, a third less than the 60,000 claim on which the funding and economic justification for the project was based with just six weeks of their year to go.

The public's response to what they find inside is varied; according to Trip Advisor, about 75% of visitors think it is excellent or very good with the remainder rating it average, poor or terrible. Compare that to the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, where only 5% of visitors rate the place as average, with a negligible number of poor or terrible. The majority of negative comments for 'SJ' are about the level of the content which is clearly aimed at very young kids. While admirable, it leaves little for the grown-ups to get out of the experience and perhaps that is why the projected numbers are falling so short. One also has to question what learning, emotional and behavioural change is being achieved as a result of a visit. It is also supposed to promote Natural Seaton but, instead, it majors on the Jurassic, which is not even found at Seaton (East Devon's story is Triassic). As such people are clearly expecting fossils and are, not surprisingly, disappointed. But it gets worse, as the place does not even direct people to where they can see, find and learn about fossils, which is not Seaton but is Charmouth and Lyme Regis. Instead, it uses valuable space to suggest to people that the next thing they could do should be to buy a cup of tea in their café and buy something in their shop.

Compare with the recently opened Etches Museum of Jurassic Life at Kimmeridge, which you can visit during the winter months and is receiving good numbers, even at this time of year. Genuine and authentic to its place on the World Heritage Site, the museum displays and interprets the astounding fossils found at Kimmeridge by Steve Etches, humble plumber turned world authority. The museum is quite small, being constrained by the design and footprint of the building in the rural and unspoilt village of Kimmeridge. But that does not impact on the quality of what is inside, which is based on a simple and straightforward concept: put amazing fossils from the World Heritage Site on the wall and tell their stories at the place where they were found. The fossils are brought to life by projecting, onto the ceiling, a fabulous animation of their living forms in the Jurassic sea and their business model supports the local café, which is just across the road.

Jurassic La La Land and the real thing; I would urge you to visit both to see how to and how not to interpret the World Heritage Site through capital projects.

Richard Edmonds, Freelance Geologist

Jurassic Experience



A new museum offers an immersive experience of life in primeval seas from the smallest ammonite egg to the largest marine reptile

We are fortunate living in Charmouth to have cliffs and beaches free of development. Regardless of whether the sun is out or a storm brewing, a curious band of people of all ages with eyes focused on the ground roam the beaches carrying small hammers. The search for fossils has been stimulated by the Heritage Coast Centre under the enthusiastic guidance of the current Senior Warden, Phil Davidson. Over the years a group of centres have sprung up along the 95 mile stretch of the Jurassic Coast with similar aims including the Philpott Museum in Lyme, Seaton Jurassic in Seaton and a new museum at Kimmeridge.

The driving force behind this museum is Steve Etches, who has built up a collection of 2000 fossils over 30 years from the clays of Kimmeridge Bay in East Dorset. A tenacious amateur with the skills and knowledge of a professional palaeontologist, he struggled to find a place to display the collection until finally achieving his ambition this year with the completion of the Museum of Jurassic Marine Life.

A group of individuals and organisations came together to make this possible including the Smedmore Estate which supplied the land, Dorset County Council and Purbeck District Council which granted funds and planning permission and the Lottery Fund which contributed £2.7 million. Steve Etches donated his collection to the newly formed Trust, which now runs the museum. It couldn't be more appropriately sited since it doubles as a meeting place for the residents of Kimmeridge and is within a short distance of the bay where most of the fossils were collected.

The exhibition is housed in what appears to be an underwater observatory beneath seas teeming with shoals of primitive fish, ammonites and giant marine reptiles. Visitors are immersed in a world 150 million years ago with the aid of CGI images projected onto the ceiling. A rich diversity of marine fossils are arranged around the walls with graphic explanations. Where only fragments remain, outlines of the complete creatures are drawn on the display boards to give an indication of their shape and scale. Touch screens with themes like 'escape and evade' are a magnet for young children.

Steve Etches clearly enjoys giving a running commentary on the creatures in these seas and his experiences of finding their fossils. One Sunday, he came across the debris on the beach from a cliff fall containing six huge chunks of bone which he realized were fragments of the jaw of a massive Pliosaurus marine reptile. 'High up in the cliff was a fresh rock scar with a piece of bone protruding indicating that the rest of the jaw

was in situ.' Reluctantly he decided it was too dangerous to attempt to recover them. Undeterred, he waited patiently for three more years before the cliff collapsed again enabling him to recover 95% of a two metre long jaw, now a central exhibit in the collection. Pliosaurus grew up to 15 metres and were built for speed with four flippers, a short neck and a long elongated head with a massive toothed jaw. They preyed on fish, molluscs and other marine reptiles.

Evidence of the battle between predator and prey can be found in teeth marks in many fossil bones. Bites in the back of ammonite shells indicate that predators had learnt the best position to suck out the soft body. Remnants of fish and squid are to be found beneath the ribcage of an Ichthyosaurus in the collection. These interactions are starting to reveal a clear picture of the food chain in Jurassic seas.

Many fossils were crushed flat by the weight of subsequent layers of rock but the intact head and jaw of a sea-going crocodile was a valuable find. This reptile had smooth skin, which enabled it to swim faster than its modern descendants. A joint project with a University is being planned to investigate the cranium using a CT scanner.

One of the most exciting discoveries to come out of the collection concerns the unravelling of the mystery surrounding the embryonic stage of ammonites. In 2009 Steve Etches noticed a similarity between modern cuttlefish eggs and clusters of egg shaped fossils which he had found in Kimmeridge clay. Some were isolated but others were found within ammonite shells. One of the eggs had crystalline phosphate on its surface, which indicated that it might have already decayed before fossilization. He wrote up a scientific paper with Jane Clarke and academic John Callomon suggesting that the fossils he had found, based on strong circumstantial evidence, were in fact ammonite eggs. He intends to continue investigations to find conclusive proof.

An outreach programme to schools and colleges is being put together and since only 10% of the collection is on display, the exhibition will be changed periodically to feature items from the archives along with new CGI images and touch screens.

Steve Etches' philosophy is that the search for fossils is open to everyone, not just academics. 'It's about observational skills. You're not just looking at something which is now dead - it was once a living animal. These remains contain a wealth of information locked within.'

This museum has already started to inspire visitors of all ages and fill a vital gap in our knowledge of marine life 150 million years ago.

Chris Lakeman Fraser

Chris is a filmmaker, writer and educationalist who runs a group in Charmouth Central Library called 'Kick start your writing' He also tutors students in English.

The Lyme Regis Coast Protection Scheme

GEOFF DAVIS, BSC, MSC, FGS, MIMMM, CENG, CGEOL, MICE, SON OF MARY DAVIS, GAVE A TALK AT CHARMOUTH HERITAGE COAST CENTRE IN JANUARY ON SEA DEFENCES. MANY OF THE CENTRE'S FRIENDS ATTENDED. FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC, GEOFF HAS WRITTEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE.

One day when I was a small boy growing up in Charmouth in the 1970s my father took me, on the back of his motorbike, up to the top of Old Lyme Road. The road came to an abrupt end in a sheer drop over the edge of the cliff and beyond it was the enormous landslide of Black Ven. My father explained that the road used to go all the way to Lyme Regis but had been destroyed by landsliding. This made a big impression on me. After leaving Woodroffe I went away to study engineering geology and after working in ground engineering around the country for several years, came back as project manager for the Lyme Regis Coast Protection Scheme.



Landslide damage, 1962

Although only a couple of miles down the coast, and underlain by the same geology, Lyme Regis is at far greater risk from the effects of coastal erosion and landsliding than Charmouth. This

is largely because the centre of Lyme is much closer to the sea, and parts of the town have been built upon coastal landslides which are prone to reactivation. In contrast, Charmouth is laid out along The Street, a sensible distance away from the sea. For centuries, Lyme has suffered from the effects of storms and landslides and many houses have been damaged or destroyed, right up to the recent past.

Over the last 25 years, West Dorset District Council, as coast protection authority, has implemented a series of projects to protect the town against coastal erosion and landsliding, all involving major engineering works. These have included the construction of Gun Cliff Walk in the 1990s, in front of the museum and Marine Theatre, an extension to the rocks on the end of the Cobb and the new promenade and beaches along the main seafront. Over the whole of the Lyme Regis frontage there are now extensive stabilisation works which strengthen the coastal slopes including over a thousand reinforced concrete piles, 2600 steel soil nails, and several miles of drainage. Most of this engineering is buried beneath the ground or concealed beneath

landscaping, such as in Langmoor and Lister Gardens, so that many people have no idea it is there.

The most recent phase of works was completed in 2015 at East Cliff, which includes the new seawall and promenade and the footpath and steps from Charmouth Road car park. The new footpaths have proven to be very popular and have made it much safer for people walking along the beach to or from Charmouth. As well as protecting the town against landslides and enhancing amenity, the Lyme Regis Coast Protection Scheme has had considerable spin-off benefits for the natural environment. Gun Cliff Walk contains storage tanks and a pumping station which deals with the town's sewage which used to flow directly into the sea untreated. The recent works at East Cliff have improved

the geological exposures on the foreshore and have provided substantial habitat enhancements for rare species including dormice and butterflies. Even at Charmouth the sea is cleaner than it once was, and there may be a few more butterflies in the air.

Geoff Davis



27m-long pile under construction



The completed East Cliff scheme

Charmouth Scout News

Can you help the 1st Charmouth Scout Group Move to the Next Level?

Continued demand for spaces within the Scout Group's Beaver Colony, Cub Pack and Scout Troop means we need more leaders. Over the last four years, membership of the Scout Group has more than quadrupled, and we have just opened an extension to our newly refurbished HQ. However, to make any impact on our waiting lists, we need more full-time, uniformed help for all three sections. No experience is necessary, as full training and a free uniform is provided. You only need the desire to help young people reach their full potential. Age is also no barrier – all you have to be is over 18!



If you made a New Year's resolution to do some voluntary work, this could be an ideal opportunity to make a very positive and worthwhile contribution to the local community.

For more information, please contact our Group Scout Leader Kevin Payne, payne.kevin6@gmail.com or 07976 534517.



Visitors wear their masks and wait for the 'unveiling' of the mural

Donors Flock to see Scout Hut's Transformation

Over 70 donors, supporters, parents and members packed themselves into the 1st Charmouth Scout Hut on Sunday, 27th November to see the official opening of the Group's new Training Suite.

Over the past 18 months, the Scout Group has spent over £20,000 on extending and refurbishing its HQ, which was originally a Second World War army hut, transported to Charmouth from Bovington.

In addition to a full width, 4-metre extension, which now serves as its Training Suite, the Group has also installed a new kitchen and a disabled loo, as well as completely redecorating the main hall and fitting a cushioned vinyl floor. A new roof has also been put in place, plus double glazing to main windows.

Kevin Payne, Group Scout Leader says, "We have been very fortunate to receive so many donations from national, regional and local charities, such as the Dorset Community Trust; Lyme Regis and Brit Valley Rotary; Bridport Lions; Axe Valley Festival; and Lyme Regis Carnival. Local companies, such as Palmers Brewery and Bridec, have also helped, as have a number of very generous donations from individual donors living in the village. However, anyone who had visited our HQ will know how tired and dilapidated it had become and recognised the urgent need for improvement."

To keep the guests fed, the group organised a Bake Off among its Beavers, Cubs, Scout and Explorers. And what an impressive selection faced them on arrival. The winning Cub

cake was decorated with a Scout arrowhead, the best Scout cake looked like a camp site and the leading Explorer cake was made in the shape of a Scout shirt, complete with badges!

Originally, the Group had planned to get a representative from the Charmouth Parish Council, which had given the project its full support from the outset, to officially unveil the 4 x 2 metre Jungle Book mural that adorns one wall of the Training Suite and cut a rope to signify the opening, but that had to be abandoned as there were too many guests to all fit in. "It was a nice problem to have," said Kevin, "as we would always rather have too many guests than too few. However, we would like to apologise to Jim Greenhalgh, from CPC, who had come armed with a short speech!"

Presentations were made to three of the parents who had helped make the project such a success: Alastair Pollard, of Bridec, for the provision of sliding doors and kitchen units; Paula Silverthorne, who painted the stunning mural; and David Barton, who spent many hours fitting doors, lights and carpeting, as well as trying to hide the fact that none of the walls in the main building join at right angles!

With the new extension in place, plus the creation of a smaller training area in the space previously taken up by their stores, the group is now well set to continue its expansion. Since 2011 it has more than quadrupled in size, and over 80 young people now use the facilities each week.

Kevin Payne, Group Scout Leader



The Scouts prepare to pull the trek cart to Monkton Wyld

Off to Camp the Old Fashioned Way for Local Scouts

Having acquired a partly-refurbished trek cart, Scouts from 1st Charmouth decided to go off to camp the old way by loading it up and pulling it to a farm site near Monkton Wyld. The seven-strong team met at their HQ, loaded up their tents and sleeping bags and set off on the three mile route in high spirits. After a short stop outside Morgans to buy chocolate bars, it was down The Street, left over the A35 and up the hill to Catheston Leweston. Then full speed ahead to Wootton Fitzpaine for a well-earned rest and a play on the swings.

After another mile of ups and downs, the Scouts arrived at Stubbs Farm, where they had to pull the cart through a river ford to reach their intended camp site. After erecting their tents, they cooked a healthy vegetarian spaghetti bolognese. Next morning, it was bacon sandwiches, strike camp and head back for Charmouth.

According to Kevin Payne, Group Scout Leader, "Virtually every Scout Troop had a trek cart back in the 1950s and they took them off to camp. We never had one, as we were not founded until 1965. However, when one came up on eBay, we grabbed the chance to acquire it and get it back into full working order. We still need to do a bit of work on the wheels, which are a bit rotten, but once this is sorted out, our cart should last us for many years, and allow the Scouts to make pulling it to a local site a yearly tradition."

Charmouth Explorer Scouts (Charmouth Seagulls)

It's been an exciting past few months for the Charmouth Explorer scouts. The group recently visited Bristol Air Hop where they stayed overnight at the Northcote scout hut. The next day they were up early and excitedly entered Air Hop where they spent the morning having a bounce and some fun before heading back home exhausted.

They have also been earning their survival skills badge with forester Zoe Atterbury (Beyond Bushcraft) at Higher Spence farm, learning how to purify dirty water, and which berries are poisonous and which are safe to eat, as well as making wooden spoons and ladles from scratch.

The Explorers then visited the Norman Lockyer Observatory where they had a tour of the telescopes and equipment; in addition to this they got to use the planetarium to look at the stars.

Recently, they have been helping the Charmouth Cubs and running activities with them, such as making rugs and creating rockets out of bottles, using a pump to shoot them across the field (just the rocket bottles!). Amongst this they are constantly playing games and enjoying themselves.

Later this term, the Explorers will be visiting the Exeter Chiefs' rugby stadium where they will be having a tour of the stadium and hopefully have their own match in Sandy Park! They will go hiking and do more outdoor activities as the weather gets warmer.

Luke Pemberton age 15

The Charmouth Seagulls meet on Thursday evenings generally between 6.00 and 7.30pm, although timings can vary. For further information, please contact Melanie Harvey 01297 560393.



Cubs to Exeter Chiefs' Rugby Club

We took 11 Cubs to Exeter Chiefs' Rugby Club to see the England under 20s play France. England won 59-17. At the Scout hut we have been learning about recycling. We also had a ready steady cook night, where Cubs brought in left-overs and made some lovely food, all of it eaten and each child tried something. We have been making rag rugs and fizzy bottle rockets with the help of the Explorer Scouts. This last week, we have been tidying around the village and had Lyndon from Monkton Wyld Court do an interesting demonstration on his electric bike, all finished off with a hot chocolate.

Tracy Chapman

Phil Davidson, Geological Warden at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre says:
'The best fossils are found loose on the beach. Due to all the recent rain, the cliffs are very unstable and you should make sure you keep your distance from them. Also the excessive rain has created lots of sticky mudslides that should be avoided and can cut off the beach on an incoming tide. Always check the tides times before going out fossil hunting.'



Distant Shorelines with Pam Shirley leaving Puerto Rico

U3A Geology



Budleigh Salterton



West of Lyme Regis



Charmouth



West Bay

What is U3A?

The University of the Third Age, a 35-year old organisation which provides opportunities for retired and semi-retired people to learn together, “*not for qualifications but for its own reward - the sheer joy of discovery*” (www.u3a.org.uk/). There are over 1,000 U3A groups in the UK, with nearly 400,000 members. The nearest to Charmouth are Bridport, Lyme Regis and Seaton. The ‘Heritage Coast Lyme Regis U3A’ started in 2005 and now has around 600 members and 35 groups including Geology, Current Affairs and Opera Appreciation. Some help maintain and improve fitness, such as the Tennis, Scottish Dancing and Walking groups. Others offer an opportunity to have a go at a new craft, whilst languages are ever popular and, along with Bridge, Creative Writing and Family History, all help keep the brain alert (www.whatsoninlyme.co.uk/u3a.htm).

What is the Geology Group?

The group is run by Dr Geoff Townson (a retired professional geologist) as a course running from October to May. The aim is to become better informed on the geology and scenery of the Dorset and East Devon World Heritage Coast (‘The Jurassic Coast’) by a series of Indoor Meetings and Field Trips to coastal locations and inland viewpoints in East Devon and West Dorset. Geoff started this course in 2012 and it is currently in its sixth run, with a total of 84 participants so far. The current course is full but if you are interested in applying for the next session, starting in Oct 2017,

join Lyme Regis U3A and respond to an announcement in a newsletter or newflash in March.

Applications close end-April and 12 places are offered by end-May.

Indoor Meetings

9 Tuesdays in 8 months, avoiding school hols.

Each Field Trip is preceded by a 2-2½ hour meeting a week or two before to: (a) recap the previous meeting & trip, (b) to give a briefing on the geology & landscape to be visited, (c) to explain the logistics & scope for sharing transport. These meetings include a hands-on session, for example, to look at rocks, fossils, maps, books. Indoor meetings are held upstairs in The Elms in The Street, Charmouth.

Field Trips – Aims

- *To study the rocks and their fossils in outcrop and to discuss how they were formed*
- *To appreciate the geological history of the Heritage Coast: faulting, folding, erosion, unconformities*
- *To ‘read’ the resultant landscape and scenery around us*
- *To touch on the economic role of the geology: building stones, minerals, water, oil & gas, landslips*

Field Trips – Programme

8 Tuesdays in 8 months, approx. 10am -

3pm, excluding travel time

1. Budleigh Salterton & Sidmouth: Triassic deserts & rivers; conglomerates, sandstones & marls
2. Lyme Regis & Cobb: Jurassic marine life & death: fossils, limestones, marls & oil shales
3. Charmouth: Heritage Centre: Lower Jurassic fossils, video; Evans Cliff & Black Ven Landslips
4. Eype’s Mouth, West Bay & Eggardon: L & M Jurassic - faulting, limestones, sandstones; landscape
5. Osmington Mills, Hardy Monument, Abbotsbury: U Jurassic - folding, fossils, oil seeps; landscapes
6. Isle of Portland: U Jurassic - Portland Stone extraction, Ice Age beaches
7. Lulworth Cove: Fossil Forest, Stair Hole, Dungy Head: U Jurassic & Cretaceous - folding, erosion, views
8. Beer Caves & Beach: Upper Cretaceous Upper Greensand & L-M Chalk.

Essential Pre-Reading

The Official Guide to the Jurassic Coast – A Walk through Time (must be 2nd or later Edition with geology pull-out). Available in local bookshops, Tourist Information Centres, Museums and Heritage Centres £4.95.

You can contact Geoff Townson via www.geofftownson.co.uk



Geoff at Osmington Mills



Isle of Portland



Beer



Lulworth

All Shoreline issues can be seen in colour online at www.charmouth.org/charmouth_villagelshoreline-magazine/

Charmouth Primary School



Charmouth Community make music

We are very busy settling down to the spring term activities and looking forward to the better weather we hope will be with us after half-term so that we can take our learning to the beach.

In March, we have a very special concert that the children will be busy preparing and we hope to see many members of the local community come and enjoy an afternoon of musical entertainment.

Enthusiastic children from Year 6 and the choir at Charmouth School are busy preparing for two special community concerts when they will join together with members of the Charmouth and Bridport Pop & Rock Choir for two afternoons of shared musical variety. The event is being organised by Edward Jacobs, who is the school's music co-ordinator and the director of the Charmouth & Bridport choir. There will be great musical variety, with some of the children's favourite songs and instrumental items being played and sung. An energised and varied performance is promised!

The performances will be on Monday 20th March and Monday 27th March, both starting at 1.45pm. Tickets are available from the school reception office at £3.00 each. We look forward to seeing you.

Remember that updates on all our school events can be found on the school website: <http://www.charmouth.dorset.sch.uk>

Best wishes,

Gillian Morris, *Headteacher*

Rebecca Loader MCSP

*Chartered Physiotherapist
Registered with the Health Professions Council*

Waddington House,
The Street, Charmouth,
Dorset DT6 6QE

Tel: 01297 561425

Email: rebeccaloaderphysio@outlook.com



Member of The Organisation of Chartered Physiotherapists in Private Practice



The Best Room with a View

Many of us can be said to have a room with a lovely view but can you imagine creating a room from scratch – on the top of Snowdon! Well that is exactly what Richard Davey of Charmouth did in October last year in order to raise funds for the charity Care for Casualties which is run by officers of The Rifle Regiment (formerly the Somerset, Devon and Dorset regiments).

Richard and his wife Rachel, also known as 'The Garden Lady', have lived in the village for almost a year but had a holiday home in Uplyme for many years before that. Richard served as a soldier in the Light Infantry, before setting up his house removal business, Kwik Move, based in Bristol. He said "I can move you to Honiton or Hong Kong, but nothing could be as hard as carrying the contents of a British sitting-room up Snowdon in the rain!" Fortunately, he wasn't on his own but was part of a team that included Martin Fowler of Fowler's Tool Hire, Paul Corcoran, ex-infantryman and organiser of the challenge and Glen Catley, the former world middleweight boxing champion.

The items carried were: Two sofas, chairs, rug, coffee table, television and stand, a chandelier, telephone, standard lamp, vase, flowers and a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen. The weather was appalling, with heavy rain hampering the team and making all the upholstery soaking wet. As the climb progressed, the sofas, chairs and rug became heavier and the going tougher, but at last the team made it to the top and were able to set out the furniture to make the 'room with the best view' A few photographs, some hot coffee and then it was time to pick everything back up and carry it all down again – and it was still raining!

All in all it took eight-and-a-half hours from start to finish and raised over £8,000. The Care for Casualties charity is run by officers of the Rifle Regiment and exists purely to help ex-service personnel whenever necessary. There is only one full-time secretarial member of staff, so there are no huge salaries being taken out of the funds raised. The team's target is to be able to hand over £10,000 to the charity by June, so if anyone would like to help towards this then they can do so by going to JustGiving/ cocosnowdenchallenge

Lynne Butler

We Remember

Arthur Kenneth Hathway (known as 'Ken')

14th September 1924 – 20th December 2016

Ken Hathway was a resident of Charmouth since the early 1980s. and passed away peacefully in Dorchester County Hospital just a few days before Christmas.

Ken was born at home in Southville, Bristol on 14-Sep. 1924. His parents ran three grocery shops and were always busy, so as Ken grew up he learned to entertain himself and was never happier than when building machines and structures with his Meccano set.

He was educated at the local primary school and then at Bristol Grammar School, having won a scholarship to what was then a private school. This was a great opportunity but meant a long walk to school every day and without his local friends. These must have been quite tough and lonely days even before the first tragic event of his life.

In 1937 when Ken was 13 his father died aged just 42. This left his mother with a grocery business to run and two teenage boys to bring up. The business was soon reduced to one shop as a result of bank loans being called in. This must have been a very stressful time for the remaining family, even without the threat of war on the horizon.

When war came in 1939 brother Jack was old enough to join the army but Ken was too young for this. Although he did well enough at school in Maths and Physics, he always struggled with English and he eventually failed his School Certificate examination on leaving. Fortunately his ability in technical subjects enabled him to excel in Mechanical Engineering at Merchant Venturers College and he went on to work for the Bristol Aircraft Company in a reserved occupation. This meant that he was able to help his mother run the grocery business throughout the war period.

The family home and business was close to Bristol docks and there was the ever present threat of bombing. Many nights were spent in the cellar under the shop. There were no 'precision' bombs in those days and many homes in this part of Bristol were destroyed during raids on the harbourside warehouses and factories. One night a bomb landed in the road right outside the shop, and there is a famous photo of a double decker bus that fell into the crater.

Ken had a keen interest in motor vehicles from an early age and he would drive the grocery van to make deliveries from the age of 15. This was before a driving test was required and he never did pass one. He never did have an accident either, if we can overlook reversing into a milk float at the end of the driveway one morning. He was also a keen motorcyclist and from the war years onwards he had a number of different machines that he would ride with his friends, and also with his future wife Margaret, on regular runs to Lyme Regis and other favourite spots on the south west coast. He knew every bump and bend on the A38 from long before the M5 was built.

After the war in 1948, Ken married Margaret who was also from a local shop-keeping family. In 1952 their first child Richard was born and then Gordon four years later.

Ken continued to flourish at the Bristol Aircraft Company and in 1953 he became an Associate Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and later a Chartered Engineer. Quite an achievement for someone who would have failed his School Certificate. In

the 1960s he left the BAC and broadened his horizons and expertise to become Chief Engineer of a sizeable company. Work trips to the USA and elsewhere in the early 1960s soon convinced him that home, or at least familiar ground, was definitely the best place to be.

In the early 1970s he took the decision to become self-employed and continued as such, largely working from home, until semi-retirement in the 1980s. Throughout his career he was always keen to learn about and use new technology as it evolved and this interest continued to the very end of his days. The only two personal items returned from the hospital (apart from a toothbrush) were his smartphone and his tablet computer.



When Ken was 'head-hunted' for a new job in Hertfordshire in 1961 it took some time before Margaret and the boys could join him there as they were waiting for a brand new house to be completed. A few years later the family moved to another job and town in Hertfordshire, where they spent several months living in a small caravan while waiting for a new house to be completed. In the early 1970s Ken became self-employed, which meant 'down-sizing' the house to release money. This meant living in a caravan for several months while waiting for a new house to be completed. Alert readers will probably be seeing a pattern emerging here and it did indeed continue, both with new houses and a love of caravans.

Ken and Margaret provided a happy and stable home life for their boys, and encouraged a love of outdoor life. Ken built several sailing boats and kayaks at home from kits, which was a popular hobby in those days. The boats were used extensively on day trips to a not so nearby river. Annual family holidays were motoring trips to Cornwall, Wales and sometimes farther afield, first with tents, later with caravans, and nearly always with friends or relatives and other children for the boys to play with.

Sadly in 1969 tragedy struck again when Ken's elder son Richard was killed in a motorcycle accident at the age of 17, just a few months after stepping into his father's motorcycling shoes. It's hard to imagine how devastating this must have been, but there was work to do, a home to run and another child to care for, so life continued nevertheless.

To Ken and Margaret's great credit they enabled Gordon's life to evolve almost unaffected. His greatest interest was Scouting, which included many weekend and longer trips to go rock-climbing, hill-walking, sailing and canoeing. Never once was there any suggestion that he shouldn't go, nor did they ever do anything other than encourage and enable him to do so.

Ken's home-based engineering business continued to prosper through the 1970s, and with Margaret's help many quite sophisticated products were manufactured in a spare bedroom and the garage. One especially successful year enabled them to purchase a holiday flat in Lyme Regis, a place they had often visited as a young couple. This prompted a permanent move to Charmouth in the early 1980s, when they purchased 'South Winds' on Lower Sea Lane. Here they gradually wound down the engineering business and turned their hands to running holiday flats.

In 1987 a new chapter started in Ken and Margaret's life when Gordon and his new wife decided to move to Charmouth too, to start their family life together and to continue what had now become a family tradition of seizing opportunities, and seeking new ventures, new experiences and prosperity.

Through the 1990s, Ken worked with Gordon to develop what was previously a piece of scrubland between Lower Sea

Lane and River Way into the attractive cul-de-sac that is now The Lawns. Ken did all the drawings for the new houses and spent many happy hours driving a dumper truck while Gordon operated the digger.

At the end of the 1980s two granddaughters Synne and Hazel arrived in quick succession, and Ken and Margaret took great delight in sharing their daily lives with them, at home, in the garden and, of course, on numerous weekends in the caravan.

Ken was a school governor while the girls were at Charmouth Primary School and later both Ken and Margaret continued service to the community by helping to run the Village Hall. They were always keen to keep the running costs of the Hall as low as possible so that events there would be affordable for anyone living in the village. Ken also helped several local businesses and individuals to use the latest computer technology as it evolved.

It has to be said that Ken was never the easiest of people to get to know and he often had little interest in what anyone else had to say, but nevertheless his heart was mostly in the right place. He took great pride in his grandchildren's achievements both at school and beyond, and was always ready to support but not spoil. His wise words on many occasions were much appreciated, though sometimes only in hindsight.

In the last ten years of Ken's life he had to turn his hand to household duties, first when Margaret was incapacitated following a fall. He took to it without complaint and he managed well enough. As time went by and Margaret's ability to do what she had always done steadily diminished, Ken kept them together and in their own home as they had always wanted. Throughout this time he was in failing health himself. He managed diabetes by completely changing his diet, but walking became increasingly painful and his deafness steadily progressed. Fortunately his ability to think and to speak barely changed right to the end.

During his last days in hospital Ken understood his condition and likely outcome, but his predictions of when he would go were as inaccurate as ever. One morning he called Gordon on his mobile phone at 5am, as he wanted to share his thoughts about dying, expecting this to happen at any moment. He was quite calm about it, he wasn't in any pain, and he wanted the world to know that death was not something to be afraid of. It was simply the end of living. He was still talking two hours later, but had to hang up because his phone needed re-charging. He died two days later, peacefully and in good hands. It was the anniversary of the night his eldest son had died and two days after his father.

Ken was cremated at Yeovil crematorium on 16th January and afterwards friends and family gathered at The Court to reminisce and celebrate his life.

Gordon Hathway

Charles Burford

1924 – 2016

Charles was a very private man who loved Charmouth. He first met Iris in 1943 while he was in the Navy and married in 1946 after his demobilisation. He later qualified as an architect, with a distinction in the protection of ancient buildings. After going into partnership with Wilfred Carpenter Turner, architect to Winchester Cathedral, Charles was introduced to Charmouth by his new partner who happened to own 3 Hillside.



We Remember

Jack Henry Reeves

30th May 1934 – 27th November 2016

Jack was born in Redditch, the youngest of thirteen children. He grew up on a dairy farm, quickly learning to be a true country boy. He was up early for the morning milking and became a very good horseman. He went to school when he could be spared from the farm, so Jack's education was largely in the school of life.

When he was 20 he joined the RAF and served during the Suez crisis. His service documents couldn't praise him highly enough. He left after three years of 'exemplary' service and went back to farming.



Jack and Clare met in 1976 through their mutual love of show jumping, hunting, point to point and buying and selling horses. They were married in 1979 at Bramley Green in Worcestershire and continued to run a mixed farm with sixty Jerseys for milking, sheep, pigs as well as their horses and dogs.

In 1980 son Luke came along, followed by Oliver in 1983. Jack's grandson is carrying on his name.

In 1996 Jack and Clare decided to retire from farming and moved to Evesham where, on their seven acres, they ran boarding kennels for half a dozen dogs, as a sort of hobby. It wasn't long before six dogs became 65, including police and prison service dogs. Jack had a wonderful way with dogs

and animals of all kinds. In fact Jack was gifted in a wide variety of ways. He was a true countryman; a man of his own generation – a bit old-fashioned and a man with traditionally high standards.

In 2008 it was time to retire again and they moved to Charmouth and ran a B and B at Kingfishers for a few years. They briefly moved to West Bexington but Charmouth had cast its spell over them and before long they moved back to their present home on Higher Sea Lane.

Jack was not a man to sit idly looking at the view. He loved working with wood and was a highly skilled craftsman. He and Clare began collecting driftwood and creating works of art from it. He had the eye and imagination of an artist and soon he and Clare were selling their furniture, lamps and driftwood art in their shop in Sidmouth.

Sadly, four years ago, Jack became ill with COPD. He endured a number of spells in DCH and spent three months in Bridport Hospital where he was very well looked after. With the support of Noreen from Weldmar Hospicecare it was finally possible to bring him home for a time. His carers were superb and grew very fond of Jack. He faced his lengthy illness with quiet acceptance and never complained. He kept his faculties right to the end but then finally admitted that things had become too much for him. He died peacefully with his loving family around him.

Leslie Scrace

What's On

Heritage Coast U3A talks - all at Woodmead Halls, Lyme Regis: coffee from 10.00am, speaker at 11.00am. Free to U3A members; donation of £2 suggested for non-members. Contact: Mary Bohane, 01297-444566.



Friday 10th March: 'The Victorian Head Gardener'. Francis Burroughes. Why did the Ministry of Defence issue thousands of stirrup pumps to the Home Guard in the Second World War? What's the correct way to mow a lawn with a horse-drawn mower, or grow grapes, pineapples and cucumbers? Why did William Robinson's butler serve his master a pear on a silver tray? His father started his career as gardener's boy on a large estate just before the First World War, so Francis can tell all.

Wednesday 12th April: 'Vietnam and the Far East'. Christopher Legrand. An experienced traveller, photographer and public speaker, Christopher will examine some of the history, culture and scenery of Vietnam, a rapidly developing country. He will describe meeting with Buddhist nuns, and visiting Thailand and Indonesia as well as Vietnam. His presentation culminates in a close encounter with a Komodo Dragon.

Wednesday 10th May: 'Harrods in Edwardian Times'. Yvonne Bell, who returns following her popular talk last year about the Edwardian Garden. Now she swaps gardening for shopping, having spent many happy hours in the Harrods' Archives. Early catalogues and much more provide a fascinating insight into the shopping habits of the comfortably-off around 100 years ago, and much wry humour when viewed from a modern perspective.

Wednesday 14th June: 'Lichtenberg's Remarkable Figures'. John Marriage illustrates 'Lichtenberg figures' – the strange, beautiful, almost organic shapes formed when a pulse of high-voltage electricity passes over the surface of an insulator – discovered in the 18th Century, first photographed in the 19th by Étienne Trouvelot. John will talk of his research into how Lichtenberg and Trouvelot fused science and art, and will also show some of his own 'Lichtenberg' photographs.

Monkton Wyld Court

Presents

Fearless Fridays: Open mic night

Join us each month for music and fun
with local ale and cider available

Just turn up. Free Entry. 7pm – 11pm

2017 dates: 3rd March, 7th April, 5th May, 9th June

Email info@monktonwyldcourt.org or call 01297 560342

CHARMOUTH KNIT AND NATTER GROUP INVITE YOU TO A

COFFEE MORNING AND TABLE TOP SALE

**ON SATURDAY, 22nd APRIL 2017
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, WESLEY CLOSE**

FROM 10 UNTIL 12

**RAFFLE
TOMBOLA
CAKES**

**There will also be a DISPLAY OF KNITTED ITEMS
ready to send to charities in the UK and Africa.**

LIMES SCHOOL REUNION

LITTLE LODGE, THE STREET, CHARMOUTH

**23 JULY 2017
3PM – ONWARDS**

WITH MORE RECENTLY FOUND PHOTOS TO SHARE

**FREE BUFFET, TEA, COFFEE
(GLASS OF WINE OR SMALL BEER)**

If you attended the Limes Day School run by the Whittington Sisters then please come along. Last year was well attended and great fun. This year we hope to increase the numbers. Not only to have a good chat and meet up with old friends but also to record the memories of those who attended the Limes Day School. As last year we will share all the photos collected to date.

For details or to confirm you wish to come contact

Helen or Dorothy Parker, Little Lodge. Tel: 01297 561580

helen.parkercharmouthis@btinternet.com

Charmouth and Bridport Pop and Rock choir

Members of the Charmouth and Bridport Pop and Rock choir will be joining members of the Lyme Regis Golf Club Choir and the Axe Valley Community Choir for a joint concert on Saturday 29th April at St. Paul's Church in Honiton. The concert will be directed by Edward Jacobs and the choirs will be joined by James and Hilda Clemas who regularly perform professionally with Edward as a trio – 'Trichord'. The concert will start at 7.30pm, with the programme including a variety of songs, old and new. There will be something for everyone; an up-beat, fun evening is promised!

Tickets cost £7 and can be purchased by
calling (01297) 561625.

Monkton Wyld Court

12.30pm on 15th Mar; 19th April; 17th May, 21st June

Local Lunch, £8 per person, £4 for 14s and under.

Please phone to pre-book on 01297 560342

Email: info@monktonwyldcourt.org



Weldmar Hospicecare Trust
Caring for Dorset
Reg (Care) No. 5000418

**Weldmar Hospicecare Charmouth Committee invite
you to an evening of Wit & Wisdom aka The Quiz**

Friday 24th March 2017

7.30 start, doors open at 7.00pm
Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close

Tickets £7 – Teams of 4

Raffle, Bar, Light Snacks

Tickets available from Kathy 560446

Shoreline Charmouth - Village Diary

Badminton Club (experience required)	Mon 8.00 – 10.00pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Badminton (social)	Tues 7.00 – 10.00pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Russell Telfer 560806
Beachcombers Café	Mon 10.00 – 12.00am	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Alison McTrustery 07789 165570
Beavers (ages 6-7)	Tuesdays 6.00 – 7.15pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Amanda Clist 01297 560157
Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	3rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Jane Tait 560801
Bowls Club <i>Summer:</i> <i>Winter Short Mat Bowls:</i>	Sun, Tues, Thurs 2 – 5.30pm Tues 2 – 5.00pm	Playing Field, Barr's Lane Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Jackie Rolls 01297 560295 Jim Greenhalgh 01297 561336
Brownies (ages 7-10)	Mon 4.30 – 6.00pm (term-time only)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 560207
Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Thurs 7.00 – 10.30pm	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielesz 560738
Charmouth Local History Society	1st Tues of month 10 – 12am or by appointment.	The Elms, The Street	Richard Dunn 560646
Cherubs (Mums & Toddler Group)	Wed 9.30 – 11.30am (term-time only)	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Vicki Whatmore 561315
Cubs (ages 8-10.5)	Thurs 5.00 – 6.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Kevin Payne 07976 534517
Explorer Scouts (ages 14-18)	Thursday 6.00 – 7.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Melanie Harvey 01297 560393
Gardeners	2nd Wed each month-winter; two outings-summer	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Penny Rose 561076
Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	Wed 7-8.45pm (term-time only)	Wooton Fitzpaine	Davina Pennells 560965
Junior Rangers Club (ages 8-12)	2nd Saturday each month 10.30-12noon	Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre	Alison Ferris 560772
Knit and Natter group	Thursday 2 – 4pm	St. Andrew's Community Hall	Jan Coleman 561625
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Monday 9.30 - 10am in term time	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Memorable Memoirs	1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm	Charmouth Central Library	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Parish Council Meeting	3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 01297 560826
Sewing Circle	Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.30pm	Charmouth Central	Hazel Robinson 561214 or HazelRosery@aol.com
Scouts (ages 10.5-14)	Thurs 7.00 – 8.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Kevin Payne 07976 534517
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9.00am – 12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tea and Chat	1st & 3rd Monday each month 3.00 – 4.15pm	Charmouth Central	Felicity Horton 07736 825283
Wyld Morris dancing practice	Wed 7.15pm	Pine Hall, Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546
Whist Evening	2nd & 4th Mon each month 7.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Eileen Lugg 560675
Whitchurch WI	2nd Tuesday each month - 2.30pm	Village Hall, Whitchurch	Pat Veal (01297 560544)

To add or amend any details in the Village Diary or to promote your Charmouth event contact:
Lesley Dunlop | lesley@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk | 01297 561644

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

EMERGENCIES POLICE	Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard	999 or 112
	PCSO Luke White for Community Police issues (ask by name)	101
	Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	101
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	101
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service — Group Manager	01305 252600
HM COASTGUARD	Sidmouth Road, Lyme Regis (Not 24 hours)	01297 442852
DOCTORS	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
DENTISTS	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08712 002233
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity (Western Power Distribution)	0800 365900
	Water (Wessex Water)	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 807060
CHEMISTS	Mr Wang, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner	01297 443763
CHARMOUTH HALLS	Village Hall, bookings Gill Savage	01297 560615
	St Andrew's Community Hall, bookings Leslie Bowditch	01297 560572
BEFRIENDING	Charmouth	07736 825283
COUNCILS		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Peter Noel	01297 561017
	Clerk — Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrew's Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Heritage Coast Centre, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560772
	Beach Attendant, Charmouth Beach	01297 560626
W. DORSET DISTRICT	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	01297 443591
	Councillor — Mr George Symonds – Clrg-symonds@westdorset-dc-gov-net	
	Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
	County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01305 221000
DORSET'S PORTAL FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT/TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS AND OTHER AGENCIES www.dorsetforyou.com		
LOCAL M.P.	Oliver Letwin, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA or e-mail letwin@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
CITIZENS' ADVICE	St Michaels Business Centre, Lyme Regis (Wed 10am-3pm)	01297 445325
	45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
LIBRARIES	The Street, Charmouth	01297 560640
	Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443151
	South Street, Bridport	01308 422778
	South Street, Axminster	01297 32693
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
CINEMAS	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442053
	Electric Palace, 35 South Street, Bridport	01308 424901
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
TOURIST INFORMATION	Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442138
	Bucky Doo Square, South Street, Bridport	01308 424901

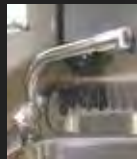


Plumbing & Heating Contractors

- Air Conditioning Installation & Servicing
- Boiler Repairs & Replacements
- Bathroom & Kitchen Fitting & Tiling
- Central Heating
- Solar Thermal Renewable Energy



Gas Safe Registered Inc. LPG
Electrical Contractors, Gas safety
tests and landlord certs,
Commercial/Catering Gas

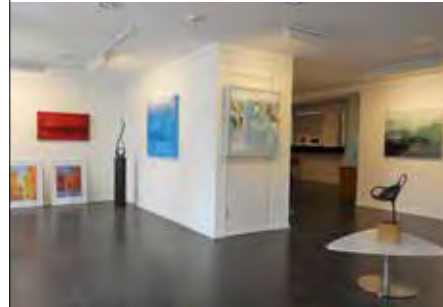


01308 420831

www.topsparks.com - info@topsparks.biz

3-5 East Business Park, Bridport, DT6 4RZ

artwavewest
CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY



Morcombelake
Dorset DT6 6DY
01297 489746

**Open
Wednesday to
Saturday
10am - 4pm**

(From May Tuesday to
Saturday 10am - 5pm)

Changing Exhibitions
as well as Art Classes
run throughout
the year.

www.artwavewest.com



you'll love our view on holidays

Superb self-catering holidays. Over 250
cottages in and around Lyme Regis

Lyme Bay Holidays is a family run business specialising
in self catering holidays for more than 20 years. We are
a flexible business acting as a booking agent via our first
class professional website and brochure. We also offer:

- Essential management services such as key handout
- Organising cleaning and gardening services
- 24 hour emergency maintenance service for your
guests in residence.

visit our website: www.lymebayholidays.co.uk

please call Ben or Dave to discuss:

01297 44 33 63

JOB VACANCIES
good housekeepers
always required

Breeze



Full of fabulous gifts for everyone

Leather handbags in gorgeous colours, ponchos, silky soft scarves, gloves, candles, glassware, frames and a huge selection of stocking fillers.

NEXT TO NISA, THE STREET, CHARMOUTH 01297 560304



Clean Living

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

01297 561505 / 07970 060449

jeff@cleanliving-sw.co.uk

First Class Service – First Class Results

- Free Survey with no obligation
- Safe cleaning of both wool and synthetic carpets
- Upholstery cleaning
- Stain-guarding of carpets and upholstery
- Stain-guarding natural fibre flooring e.g. Coir, Sea-grass and Sisal.
- Leather cleaning
- Oriental Carpets a specialty
- Turbo drying of carpets and upholstery
- Insect/moth/flea infestation treatment
- All work is properly insured
- Full member of the NCCA



Jillian Hunt



Seamstress

Charmouth
01297 561173

*Curtains, blinds and cushions
Dressmaking and alterations*

Let your holiday cottage...



...with the award-winning local experts

Looking for more from your holiday cottage agency? Then speak to award-winning Toad Hall Cottages who are currently looking for more properties to add to their Dorset & East Devon portfolio.

www.toadhallcottages.co.uk
01297 443550



Toad Hall
COTTAGES

INCORPORATING DEVON & DORSET COTTAGES